

WEST END WATCH  
something new in the watch world...  
Yacoub Youssef Behbehani

# ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7170 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1988 JAMADI AL-THANI 25, 1408 AH 20 PAGES 150 FILLS

## Bangladesh opposition calls for strikes

# Polls carnage toll reaches 152

DHAKA, Feb 12, (Agencies): Opposition parties in Bangladesh, defying police shoot-to-kill orders, vowed today to begin a new anti-government strike tomorrow.

Twenty-one opposition parties called for the stoppage to coincide with a protest against the carnage during this week's rural elections.

Police and hospital sources said the violence on Wednesday — the worst of President Hossain Muhammad Ershad's six years of rule — had so far claimed 152 lives.

**Orders**

But Home Minister Abdul Matin said the official death figure still stood at 80 and although it might increase slightly, "I don't however expect any phenomenal jump."

Matin said the country's 70,000 paramilitary police had been sent into the troubled areas with orders to shoot to quell any more violence between political groups.

Candidates in the village elections were not officially allowed to represent parties. But police said rival political groups fought with guns, knives and bombs, kidnapped election officials, snatched ballot boxes and burned voting centres.

In one place an election official was beheaded, at another two people were skinned alive, police said.

Police said they were searching for more than 100 people kidnapped during the rural polling.

They said they had recovered one police officer, in an unconscious condition, and the body of his partner, after the pair were abducted near Sunamganj, 100 miles (165 km) northeast of Dhaka.

Police reported about 40 election officials were among the missing, many taken during attempts by activists to steal ballot boxes and rig the polls in favour of their candidates, who if successful, can dispense political favours to their patrons.

The opposition called the two-day 12-hour general strike tomorrow and on Sunday as part of the national campaign they began last November to force Ershad to resign.

**Massacre**

"Let us turn our grief at the massacre into a firmer determination to oust this government," opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia told a meeting of her Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Armed police watched silently from a distance as some 300



A Palestinian woman screams as the body of a Palestinian boy is carried through the streets after he was killed by Israeli soldiers. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Palestinians confront Israelis

# Troops shoot dead two

NABLUS, West Bank, Feb 12, (Reuters): Israeli troops shot dead two Palestinians and wounded five when youths pelted them with rocks, bottles and fire bombs after Friday prayers in the old city of Nablus, the occupied West Bank's largest city.

An Army spokesman said soldiers were forced to open fire when several hundred Palestinians attacked them in the narrow alleys of the Nablus kasbah (market) around the blue-domed Al Nasr mosque.

**Flag**

A nurse at the city's Al Ittihad Hospital named the dead as Basher Al Masri, 17, a distant relative of Jordan's Foreign Minister, and Basel Taysir Al Awstani, 14. She said five other patients were treated for gunshot wounds and 12 for beatings.

Relatives removed the bodies immediately from the hospital. In an emotional funeral procession, Masri's body was carried draped in a Palestinian flag to a hillside cemetery and buried as gunfire echoed from the old city.

The kasbah resembled a battle zone. Sporadic clashes continued after nightfall.

The clashes erupted when Palestinian youths pelted a patrol of 20 soldiers with rocks, bottles, building blocks and flowerpots.

Troops fired tear gas and rubber bullets but were rapidly forced to use live ammunition as they backed off under a hail of missiles thrown from rooftops and windows.

The two deaths brought an unofficial toll in over two months of Palestinian uprising to 56. Nineteen Israelis have been killed in the confrontations but several have been injured by rocks and petrol bombs.

In front of the mosque, photographers saw the lifeless body of a boy, whose brains had been blown away, carried away by Palestinians.

Dzons of youths, faces masked by Keffiyeh headresses, hurled rocks and used slingshots to fire glass marbles at the troops from the mosque roof.

**Direction**

Projectiles were coming from every direction as troops fired dozens of rounds of ammunition into the air.

In the confusion, soldiers entered a house, and cries of pain were heard. They later carried out a man barely conscious, his trousers torn and bloody and his face wrapped in a blood-stained sweater.

An Israeli Army spokeswoman said she was checking reports of the casualties but would not immediately confirm any figures.

Fresh violence was also reported from the occupied Gaza Strip.

Protesters stoned troops after Friday prayers in Gaza city, the villages of Beit Hanoun and Beit

## PLO insists trip still on but no ship chartered

ATHENS, Feb 12, (AP): A PLO spokesman today insisted the voyage of Ship of Return from Greece to Israel would go ahead as planned, but a Palestinian involved in its organisation said no vessel had yet been chartered.

Palestine Liberation Organisation spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif told a news conference "we are still insisting that the boat will sail," and accused Israeli intelligence of distributing fake PLO memos that it had been cancelled.

Numerous reporters here said they hadn't seen such memos.

Abu Sharif said the tomorrow morning departure time announced yesterday by Fnuad Al Bitar, the PLO representative here, was still unchanged.

But at one point, he hinted at doubt, saying "I'm sure we will find and we have found according to Mr. Bitar, a brave captain" and a ship for the voyage.

Abu Sharif said at midday yesterday the ship would sail in 36 hours.

Earlier Abdul-Jawad Saleh, a member of the nine-person steering committee for the "Journey of Return" said, "We don't have a boat yet."

**Deal**

Another committee member confirmed no ship had been chartered, but refused to give his name.

Saleh, one of 130 Palestinian deportees taking part in the voyage, said a verbal agreement on a charter deal was made yesterday but that as of this morning no contract had been signed.

The former mayor of the West Bank city of Bireh said that two earlier charter deals had fallen through and he feared "American pressure" and Israeli threats for Greek shipowners' unwillingness to make a vessel available.

PLO officials said yesterday that the voyage had been delayed because of "a secret war" by Israel, but promised to sail for Israel by tomorrow morning.

Along with the deportees, hundreds of reporters and prominent observers from Western Europe and the United States have been waiting in Athens to make the voyage, originally set for Tuesday.

## Shultz will visit Mideast this month

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (Agencies): Secretary of State George Shultz will visit the Middle East later this month in an effort to advance the regional peace process, the State Department said today.

Shultz is expected to depart on or about Feb 24, the department said in a statement. It did not say which countries he would visit.

Shultz's visit comes as the Reagan administration has outlined fresh ideas for reaching a settlement of the Middle East conflict, including an international meeting designed to lead to direct Arab-Israeli talks.

The proposals also involve elections, possibly as early as next autumn, among Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for an administrative council that would have control over municipal and local affairs.

Under the proposals, negotiations for a definitive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict would start either late this year or early next year.

**Initiative**

US officials said the proposals did not constitute a formal plan and that the United States wanted to listen to ideas which other parties involved in the conflict might put forward.

If Shultz left for the Middle East on Feb 24, that would be only one day after he is scheduled to complete talks in Moscow with Soviet leaders.

The new US initiative has met with varying degrees of enthusiasm and scepticism from Israeli, Arab and Palestinian leaders, but US officials said all parties were encouraging the United States to continue its efforts.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has been invited to Moscow for talks on new peace moves in the Middle East, Palestinian sources in Abu Dhabi said yesterday.

They said the visit would take place either before or after talks in Moscow later this month between Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Arafat has unveiled a Middle East peace plan, including a United Nations' guarantee for Israel's security, the West German magazine Stern said in Bonn yesterday.

The plan foresaw an Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied since the 1967 six-day war, their administration by the United Nations, which would police the border with Israel, internationally supervised elections and a peace conference by the states of the region, Stern said.

Syria yesterday said it told US envoy Richard Murphy that Damascus rejects partial solution of the Middle East problem and insists on a comprehensive and just settlement, a senior official said.

Murphy visited Syria this week as part of a tour aimed at reviving Middle East peace efforts.

The official said Murphy did not submit a specific plan during his talks here. "He only presented ideas. We told him that we reject partial solutions to the Middle East problem," he added.

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ان کے اردو صفحات میں  
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**WEATHER**

CLOUDS will increase gradually with light to moderate southerly wind. State of sea: moderate to rough. High water: 6.00 am, 6.00 pm. Low water: 12.30 am, 1.30 pm. Sunrise: 6.30 am. Sunset: 5.35 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 19°C 66°F. Bahrain: 20°C 68°F. Falaka: 19°C 66°F. Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 19°C 66°F. Bahrain: 19°C 66°F. Falaka: 19°C 66°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 68 per cent. Bahrain: 61 per cent. Falaka: 75 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 75 per cent. Bahrain: 70 per cent. Falaka: 82 per cent. Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 19°C 66°F. Bahrain: 19°C 66°F. Falaka: 19°C 66°F.

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THINK  
Fantasy!

## Danish seaman dies in tanker attack

MANAMA, Feb 12, (Agencies): A Danish seaman was killed and three others seriously injured today when their supertanker was hammered by rockets and gunfire in a pre-dawn attack in the south central Gulf, company officials said.

Spokesmen for the Copenhagen-based A.P. Moller Company said they were unable to confirm nor deny reports by Gulf-based shipping executives that an Iranian helicopter had carried out the raid, which the spokesman said left the 339,000-ton Kate Maersk "dead in the water."

The huge ship, its crew quarters, bridge and radio shack severely damaged and scorched by fire, was under tow by two salvage tugs to the United Arab Emirates port of Fujairah, outside the Gulf, according to Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit in London. It was due there on Sunday.

Earlier reports had indicated the crippled tanker was being taken to Dubai, a UAE port in the southern Gulf, where the injured had already been flown aboard rescue helicopters.

**Victim**

The shipping executives, speaking on condition they not be named, said the Danish vessel was the victim of the second attack by a helicopter in four days, and the third this month involving an Iranian aircraft. A Liberian-flag tanker was attacked Feb 2 by a missile firing F-4 Phantom, but escaped undamaged.

The helicopter attacked the Kate Maersk from the port side with rockets and machine gun

## Syria proposes mediation panel

SYRIA has proposed the formation of a mediation panel including United Nations representatives to try to end the Iran-Iraq war, a Kuwaiti newspaper said on Thursday.

Syrian Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam toured Gulf Arab states last month to drum up support for the plan, the newspaper said.

The panel would be composed of officials from the United Nations and neutral and Islamic states such as Syria, Algeria and Pakistan. It would seek an immediate halt to attacks on shipping in the Gulf and cities and economic targets in both Iran and Iraq, the paper said.

**Accept**

The panel would also ask the belligerents to halt military operations on the land front and to accept the principle of negotiations to end the 7-1/2-year-old war.

The Syrian proposals envisage setting up a fund to finance reconstruction in both countries, the daily said.

Iran has insisted on the prior denunciation of Iraq as the aggressor before accepting any peace bid. A UN Security Council ceasefire call issued last July has yet to be implemented.

Meanwhile, another Kuwaiti newspaper reported yesterday that Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister, Taha Yassin Ramadan, has admitted that there are differences between Baghdad and Moscow over the Gulf war.

Ramadan charged the Soviet foot-dragging on supporting a UN Security Council embargo

## Soviet warships bump US ships

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (Reuters): Two Soviet warships intentionally bumped two US warships in Soviet waters of the Black Sea today, the Defence Department said.

The collisions were minor and there were no US injuries, it said.

The United States will protest the incidents to Moscow, the Pentagon said.

The collisions occurred as the American cruiser Yorktown and destroyer Caron were conducting routine operations within the Soviet Union's 12-mile territorial limit off the Crimean coast, it said.

The incidents occurred while the US ships were "exercising their internationally recognised right of innocent passage," through Soviet waters, the Pentagon said.

**Damage**

Without giving details, it said two Soviet frigates "deliberately bumped" the American ships in separate incidents three minutes apart at points nine and 11 miles off the coast, causing light damage to the port (left) side of the Yorktown and no damage to the Caron.

"Extent of damage to the Soviet vessels is unknown but believed to be minor," the announcement said.

"The United States will protest these incidents to Soviet authorities," it said.

The Pentagon said the Caron was bumped by a Mirka-class light frigate and the Yorktown was bumped by a Krivak-class light frigate.

## Bomb on Gemayel's plane defused

BEIRUT, Feb 12, (Reuters): Beirut airport maintenance workers found a bomb today on the plane due to carry Lebanese President Amin Gemayel on a trip to North Yemen, airport sources said.

They said explosives experts defused the bomb, containing about one pound (0.5 kg) of TNT, planted under a seat on the Middle East Airlines (MEA) Boeing 707.

The plane was about to take off for Larnaca in Cyprus to pick up the Christian President, who flew there from East Beirut by military helicopter.

Beirut airport is located in the Syrian-controlled Muslim part of Beirut and Gemayel, strongly opposed by the country's Muslims, usually leaves on trips abroad by taking a helicopter to Cyprus.

## Abu Nidal sentenced to life

ROME, Feb 12, (Reuters): An Italian court today sentenced fugitive Palestinian leader Abu Nidal and one of his lieutenants in absentia to a life prison term for a 1985 attack on Rome airport in which 16 people died.

But the court rejected a prosecution demand for a life term for the lone survivor of four commandos who carried out the attack, sentencing him to 30 years in prison.

All three defendants were convicted of massacre and illegal possession of weapons.

Ibrahim Mahmood Khaleel, 20, was the only defendant in custody during the two-month trial in a top security courtroom inside Rome's Rebibbia Prison.

Court President Filippo Antonini read out the sentences after the jury had considered its verdict for six hours.



## INTERNATIONAL

## Haig pulls out in favour of Dole

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire, Feb 12, (Reuters): Former US Secretary of State Alexander Haig abandoned his long-shot bid for the Republican Presidential nomination today and threw his support behind Senator Robert Dole.

The move could give a needed boost to Dole, who is wedged in a tight battle with Vice-President George Bush for victory in next Tuesday's key New Hampshire Presidential primary election.

**Able**  
"I am announcing my withdrawal as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States," Haig told a packed news conference. "Senator Robert Dole is the man best able to lead the country."

Haig has been in last position in most opinion polls measuring the Republican Presidential candidate's popularity.

Bush is trying to shake-off his humiliating third-place finish in Monday's caucuses in midwestern Iowa, behind Dole and for-

mer television preacher Pat Robertson.

On Thursday, the Vice-President codemanded Dole's plan to declare a budget freeze and reduce the federal deficit. He questioned the Kansas Senator's ability to lead the country.

Dole said his opponents were planning a television campaign that misrepresented his record. "This is distortion time," he said.

Robertson, who calls for putting God back in state schools and running the government as a private business, says he is rapidly picking up support in New Hampshire.

In the Democratic campaign, Dukakis spent yesterday attacking Gephardt's support for a protectionist trade policy.

Gephardt, winner in the Iowa voting, said Dukakis was distorting his position. Illinois Senator Paul Simon also rounded on Gephardt, pointing to what he said were inconsistencies in his policies.

## Scientist killed

LONDON, Feb 12, (AP): A senior nuclear scientist was stabbed to death at the home of a colleague who was found suffering from a drug overdose, police reported.

Colin Fisher, 50, was at the home of Georgina Stuart at Harwell in Oxfordshire, 50 miles (80 km) west of London, when the slaying occurred yesterday. Oxfordshire police said in a statement.

The statement said police raced to the house after receiving a telephone call from Mrs Stuart and found Fisher dead in one room and Mrs Stuart collapsed nearby. She was taken to the hospital.

## Massacre probe

ADDIS ABABA, Feb 12, (UPI): Ethiopian authorities are investigating claims that 20 people resisting resettlement were shot dead by government troops at a food distribution centre in northern Ethiopia, a UN spokesperson said in Addis Ababa today.

Relief officials, quoting eyewitnesses, said earlier government troops on Monday opened fire on farmers who had come to the Korem food distribution centre, 300 miles (500 km) north of Addis Ababa to collect their monthly food ration from the government relief agency.

The sources said 20 people were killed and several others injured.

## Private industry to be allowed to launch rockets

## New US space policy unveiled

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (AP): The US government's new national space policy is intended to put American business into orbit and US astronauts on other planets beginning with Mars.

The policy, outlined yesterday by officials in President Reagan's administration, calls for an initial \$100-million federal investment to develop technology needed to mount expeditions to other planets in the solar system. It also envisions far more commercial activity in space and authorises private rocket launches, once the province only of NASA.

James C. Fletcher, head of the National Aeronautics and Space

Administration, said Reagan's space policy adds "a major new thrust" to the civilian space effort.

"The policy clearly establishes that, for the first time, the United States has a long-range goal of expanding human presence and activity beyond earth orbit and into the solar system," Fletcher said at a White House news conference.

The plan envisions creation of a scientific base on the moon around the year 2000 and a Mars mission in the early 21st century.

The policy also gives both the department of commerce and the department of transportation roles in the commercialisation of

space.

The policy also pledged to remove any government roadblock to allowing private industry to launch rockets and place satellites in orbit.

"It shifts the major responsibility for space development from public to the private sector," said Commerce Secretary C. William Verity.

**Licence**

Jim Burnley, the Transportation Secretary, said his department has approved the nation's first commercial launch licence. The licence will permit Conatec, Inc., a company based in Lanham, Maryland, to launch a series of sounding rockets from

White Sands, New Mexico, for an unnamed European industrial company, Burnley said.

Fletcher said Reagan also has re-emphasised his support for NASA's plan to build a permanent space station in orbit.

But the policy also obligates the space agency to lease up to 70 per cent of a space module that will be developed by private industry. Fletcher had said previously that NASA had no need for the module, and some in the space agency feared that it would drain money from the space station project.

Fletcher said yesterday that, although NASA would be

obligated to spend up to \$140 million a year to lease room on the privately owned module, the money is to be an "add-on" and not part of NASA's planned budget.

In the budget proposal he will make to Congress next week, the President plans to ask for \$1 billion for the space station. NASA had asked for nearly twice that much.

Fletcher said he expects to complete a contract within 150 days to lease space aboard a commercially developed space module, which will be carried into space by NASA's shuttle. Fletcher said there will be open competition for the contract.

## Reagan aide convicted of illegal lobbying

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (Reuters): President Reagan's former political director, Lyn Nofziger, was found guilty yesterday of violating conflict-of-interest laws by trying to influence Reagan administration officials after he left the White House.

After deliberating for two days, a jury convicted Nofziger on three counts of illegal lobbying. He was acquitted on one count.

Leaving the courthouse, Nofziger told reporters the case showed that "all men are not equal under the law. It's an unfair law."

His lawyers said they would appeal against the verdict. Nofziger's conviction represented another embarrassment for the White House, already hit by the perjury conviction of former deputy Chief of Staff Michael Deaver and legal probes of more than 100 lower-ranking administration staff.

Nofziger, a friend and confidant of Reagan for more than 20 years, stood attentively but showed no emotion as the jury foreman read the verdict in US district court.

Nofziger, 63, faces a maximum penalty of six years in prison. Sentencing was scheduled for March 25.

He was charged with illegally lobbying former colleagues on behalf of the scandal-plagued defence contractor Wedtech Corp., another defence firm, and a labour union within a year of leaving the White House.

## Aquino may impose emergency

MANILA, Feb 12, (UPI): President Corason Aquino said today she is awaiting advice from Fidel Ramos, her trusted Defence Secretary, on whether to order a limited state of emergency in the face of the widening communist insurgency.

The idea was also raised to a House of Representatives committee today and will receive further consideration from Congress, according to politicians responding to remarks by a senior military officer.

A state of emergency would permit the military to arrest suspected rebels without warrants and to hold them indefinitely without trial.

Brig Gen. Honesto Isleta, deputy armed forces Chief of Staff, denied news reports that he had asked yesterday for such an order but repeated a call for new laws that can be used against the communist-led New Peoples Army.

**Sparrow**  
The military recently increased its estimate of NPA strength to 25,000 fighters, about half of them armed, and admits the communists control many remote areas. Its "sparrow" hit teams killed more than 100 Manila lawmen last year and have threatened foreign diplomats and businessmen.

Despite Isleta's denial, Aquino indicated she has not ruled out such a step, which is permitted under a new constitution ratified last year.

"I will get the recommendation first of the Department of National Defence," she told reporters who asked if she would declare an emergency.

## Big storm churns across central US

NEW YORK, Feb 12, (AP): A snowstorm churned yesterday across the US heartland, causing an airliner to skid off a Chicago runway, dozens of car accidents and a plunge in temperatures.

"It's a bad night out and we've been discouraging travel unless it's absolutely necessary," said Capt. Buck Belt of the highway patrol in Missouri, where two people died in weather-related traffic accidents.

In the north-central region, record low temperatures were set yesterday with readings of 35°F (37°) at Bismarck, North Dakota and international falls, Minnesota.

Snow fell yesterday from the southern states of Texas and Louisiana to the northern state of Michigan. The US national weather service said Chicago got 6 inches (15.2 cm) of snow, Milwaukee more than 8 inches (20 cm) and Vail, Colorado more than 10 inches (25 cm).

In Chicago, a DC-9 jet with 80 people aboard skidded past the end of a snow-covered runway, but no injuries were reported, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Mort Edelstein.

Meanwhile, California enjoyed unusually high temperatures. The 92° F (33° C) recorded on Wednesday in coastal San Juan Capistrano south of Los Angeles snapped a record for the date. The 78° F (25° C) in San Francisco broke another record.

**Quake**

A strong earthquake shook Los Angeles as people were driving to work yesterday, shaking buildings, smashing windows and sending goods tumbling off store shelves.

A seismologist at the California Institute of Technology, on the outskirts of the city of 8.3 million people, said the quake measured 5.0 on the Richter Scale, strong enough to cause considerable damage.

But police and fire departments said there were no immediate reports of casualties or serious damage.

The US Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado, said the quake measured 4.7 on the Richter Scale and occurred at 7:26 am (1526 GMT). The epicentre was pinpointed 10 miles (16 kms) north of Whittier, California.

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## Soviets and Pakistanis differ on coalition government

## Afghan peace accord 'ready'

ISLAMABAD, Feb 12, (Reuters): A senior Soviet official said on Thursday that signing an Afghan peace agreement at UN-sponsored talks in Geneva was the only way to help form a broad-based government in Kabul.

First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov told reporters the Geneva accord was ready for signing, and that it was up to Afghans alone to form a government of "national cohesion."

Vorontsov, speaking after two days of talks with Pakistani leaders said: "We think that we should facilitate the creation of that government by a speedy conclusion of the Geneva accords and by demonstrating to everybody that the Soviet forces will be withdrawn on a certain day," he said.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said after Vorontsov left for Moscow that the Soviet Union had recognised in principle the need to create a coalition government but that the two sides disagreed on whether this should be linked to Geneva.

**Pullout**  
"Pakistan is interested in a comprehensive solution (to the Afghan conflict) and not merely in signing agreements," the spokesman said.

Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev said, on Monday that Soviet forces could withdraw from Afghanistan within 10 months, starting May 15, if agreement was reached in Geneva by mid-March.

Vorontsov said he hoped the

United States would help the Western-backed rebel leaders based in Pakistan to "re-think" the political implications of the situation.

"Maybe we are moving rather swiftly for some of the other participants in this drama," he said. "But we are moving decisively and we hope others will do the same."

"What I repeated several times to our Pakistani colleagues here was — it's time for what the Americans call 'think big.' For eight years we have been thinking small all of us."

"We (the Soviet Union) have started to 'think big' we expect that the others will do so," he said.

Vorontsov, who met President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Jinnah and Pakistani Foreign Office officials, said Moscow understood Pakistan was concerned that the three million Afghan refugees here should return home.

"It is also our intention to expedite the creation of such an atmosphere for the refugees that they will eagerly return to their country," he said. "The time for exile now for all practical purposes is finished."

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky arrived in Tehran on Thursday for talks with Iranian officials on the Afghan conflict.

"We will discuss the situation in Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war and other current issues," the radio monitored in Moscow.

quoted Petrovsky as saying at Tehran airport.

Iran, which borders both Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, supports Muslim guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government and is home to over two million Afghan refugees.

Tehran has not yet reacted publicly to Gorbachev's proposal, but parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said last month that Iran was ready to help in a Soviet pull-out from Afghanistan.

In Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov expressed optimism that Tehran would go along with the diplomatic moves towards a settlement.

**Najib**  
Meanwhile, a senior Afghan official said in Geneva that there was no question of President Najibullah stepping down to meet rebel conditions for a settlement to the guerrilla war in his country.

"There is no question that Dr Najibullah or the People's Democratic Party will be excluded from power," Abdul Rahim Hatif told a news conference.

Hatif is not a member of the government or of Najibullah's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) but he is president of the country's high commission for national reconciliation.

In Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and visiting Indian Defence Minister Kri-

shna Chandra Pant on Thursday discussed prospects for peace in Afghanistan in the light of new Soviet proposals, Tass news agency reported.

"Mutual interest for Afghanistan to be an independent, non-aligned and neutral state friendly to the Soviet Union and India" was confirmed," Tass said.

**US aid**  
Gorbachev and Pant also expressed concern about US military aid to Pakistan, which has had tense relations with India, and Pakistan's nuclear programme, Tass said.

US officials have not determined precisely when the United States would halt aid to rebels in Afghanistan in event of a pullout of Soviet forces from that country, a White House official said Thursday.

"We have agreed that we would be for the cessation of support to the rebels there once the Soviets gave a certain date and started the pullout," presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

Meanwhile, China criticised Moscow's conditions for withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, in Peking's first direct comment on Gorbachev's latest peace moves.

A New China News Agency commentary said the Soviet Union had not changed its goal of "organising" a future Kabul government and much blood could be spilled before Afghan guerrilla groups allowed that to happen.

## Gunman kills Afghan intellectual

ISLAMABAD, Feb 12, (Reuters): Afghan rebels paid tribute today to Professor Bahaudin Majrooh, an exiled academic and journalist shot dead in Pakistan the previous evening.

"He was one of our outstanding intellectuals and a learned man," an official of the Mahaz-e-Milli-Islami party said.

"He was a great asset to the Jihad (holy war)," commented a spokesman for the radical Hezbe-Islami party. "He was contributing to the cause of the mujahideen."

Majrooh, 55, ran a news service on Afghanistan's nine-year guerrilla war and was a highly valued source of information and analysis for visiting reporters and diplomats.

His son Naim said there was no clue to the identity of the killer, who pumped six bullets into his chest at the door of his home in Peshawar, north-west Pakistan, on Thursday.

Majrooh was closer to the "nationalist" wing of the seven-party rebel alliance than the Islamic fundamentalists but journalists generally respected his reporting of events as impartial.

He angered some rebel leaders opposed to the return of the former King Zahir Shah by publishing a survey last July saying 71 per cent of Afghan exiles supported the ousted monarch as national leader.

One rebel official said he thought the killing was more likely to be on personal grounds than political. "If it was political, it could have been done long ago," he said.

## Beirut kidnappers hunting West Germans

## Swedish journalists freed

BEIRUT, Feb 12, (Reuters): Pro-Iranian kidnappers hunting for West Germans briefly seized two Swedish journalists in West Beirut after mistaking them for Germans.

Security sources said the incident undermined the dangers threatening West Beirut: Muslim Shi'ite zealots are pressing Bonn to release Lebanese brothers Mohammed Ali and Abbas Ali Hamadi, in jail in West Germany.

Cameraman Andre Lada, 45, and reporter Riden Folke, 29, the Swedish Television news service were released after 24 hours on Thursday after arriving to cover the abduction of two Scandinavian UN relief workers.

The gunmen sped with the two journalists towards a suburban bastion of pro-Iranian Hizbollah militants.

**Pakistani sentenced**  
PHILADELPHIA, Feb 12, (Reuters): A Pakistani-born Canadian convicted of trying to smuggle strategic materials out of the United States was sentenced to five years in prison.

Arsad Pervaz, 43, who lived in Ontario until he was arrested by US customs agents in Philadelphia last July, had faced a maximum sentence of 25 years.

He was convicted of attempting to evade US laws controlling the export of maraging steel 350 and beryllium, two metals used in enhancing uranium to weapons grade.

But after the leader of their abductors had checked their passports and found they were Swedes he told them: "We're very sorry, we thought you were West Germans. So we have to leave you and take you back," they said.

**Ransom**  
They added that the gunmen told them: "If you were West Germans, we would have (got) one million dollars."

West German businessman Rudolf Cordes, 53, has been held hostage in Lebanon for more than a year.

The two were among about 20 Swedish and Norwegian journalists who fled to West Beirut to cover the kidnapping of Swede Jan Stening, 44, and Norwegian William Joergensen, 57, working for the UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa).

## South Korea seeks apology from North

SEOUL, Feb 12, (UPI): South Korea renewed its demand today that North Korea publicly apologise for the alleged bombing of a Korean Air jetliner, one day after a pilots' organisation announced it would no longer fly to the communist-ruled North.

The Ministry of Culture and Information said in a statement that North Korea had waged a "persistent and brazen-faced campaign" claiming Seoul "fabricated" North Korean involvement in the airline disaster that killed all 115 people aboard KAL flight 858.

**Blacklisted**  
The ministry also accused North Korea of pushing a propaganda offensive to stir up "a hailstorm of anti-American and anti-government struggles" in South Korea.

The ministry repeated its demand — originally issued in January — that North Korea publicly apologise for the incident and punish all those involved. The South Korean

government said an apology was necessary before it would agree to enter any new political negotiations with the North.

The call for an apology came one day after the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations placed North Korea on a list of countries to which pilots will refuse to fly. Libya and Lebanon are the only other nations blacklisted by the pilots association.

In a statement released Thursday in London, the British-based organisation said North Korea was being blacklisted for the Nov 29 bombing incident by alleged agents of the North Korean government.

"The federation has given very serious consideration to the circumstances surrounding the loss of Korean Airlines flight 858 on 29 Nov 1987, with all 115 persons on board, and believes that, from the evidence available, there can be little doubt that the aircraft was callously sabotaged," the IALPA statement said.



Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov (right) and Pakistani Foreign Secretary Abdul Sattar at a press conference in Islamabad. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Deng cuts down on smoking

BEIJING, Feb 12, (UPI): Octogenarian Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, the most prominent nicotine addict in a nation which smokes more cigarettes than any other country on earth, has cut down his tobacco consumption, the Xinhua news agency said today.

The 83-year-old Chinese leader, who has frequently attributed his long life to cigarettes, has long been a virtual chain smoker of panda brand cigarettes — a long filter cigarette available only to China's highest officials.

"Deng is in good health and has taken the advice of (Dr) Ma Haide to smoke less," politician member Yang Shanguo told a meeting of foreign experts in Beijing, Xinhua said.

Yang said Deng was unable to attend the soiree since he was out of town. China's most powerful man usually quits Beijing during the harsh winter months and spends the lunar New Year festival in his native Sichuan province in Central China.

Deng almost invariably lights up within minutes of sitting down for a meal, but made an exception at his 1986 meeting with Britain's Queen Elizabeth whose dislike of the tobacco habit is well known.

## US to help India beautify Taj Mahal

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (Reuters): The US and Indian governments announced a joint project to build extensive gardens around the Taj Mahal. Announcing the project, S K Misra, secretary of tourism and aviation in the Indian government, told a news conference: "The Taj Mahal is still the biggest motivating factor for tourists from all parts of the world to visit India."

Built in Agra in the 17th century by Emperor Shah Jahan as a mausoleum for his childhood sweetheart and second wife Mumtaz Mahal, the building has been designated an international cultural property by the 93-nation World Heritage Convention.

Misra said the Indian government was happy to get experienced planners from the US National Park Service to help in the project.

"It was necessary for this project to be handled in a very sensitive manner and that nothing should be done which might detract from the beauty of the Taj," he continued.

He said about 2,000 acres would be developed and landscaped across a river from the Taj Mahal which would also link up to other monuments including the Agra Fort of the Mogul Emperors, the tombs of Mogul generals and an unfinished mausoleum known as the Black Taj.

Misra said the cost of the project would not be known until plans were completed a little over a year from now.

## Marilyn's blouse

LONDON, Feb 12, (UPI): A daring green and black lace blouse worn by Marilyn Monroe in the 1956 movie "Bus Stop" sold yesterday at Sotheby's auctioneers for \$12,500 (£7150) — double the expected price. The audience at the staid auction house on New Bond Street was stunned when the elegant, low-cut top was modeled by a Marilyn look-alike also wearing a black mini-skirt.

## Possessed woman kills 10 children

JAKARTA, Feb 12, (UPI): A woman said to be under the influence of black magic trampled 10 children to death and injured two others in a three-hour frenzy of violence, press reports said yesterday.

The woman, 35, identified only by the initials "O.L.", told reporters she was carrying out the orders of a spirit from a mystical mountain when she attacked and killed the children, who ranged in age from nine months to seven years.

She said that her guiding spirit — Mama Haj from Mount Gede — told her tragedy would befall her and her parents if she did not carry out the deed.

Angry neighbours in the West Javan village of Cirumput, 75 miles (120 km) south of Jakarta, beat the woman after learning of the incident, which took place early Wednesday morning.

Villagers told the newspaper Pos Kota that they believed the woman was a follower of "black magic" and was influenced by spirits. Witnesses said that before the tragedy, the woman was suffering from a strange disease and her parents brought her to a dukun, or traditional faith-healer, to seek assistance.

The dukun advised her to go home and recite a magic spell. Following his instructions, the woman, her sister and parents started their chanting.

**Sleep**  
The family chanted until about midnight, when the woman fell asleep, her sister said.

The sister said "O.L." woke up at 3 am and ordered her to bring all the children sleeping in the house — including her own children, nieces and cousins — to one room and cover them with a large cloth.

After assuming a prayerful attitude, the woman suddenly jumped on one after another of the children's torsos, trampling them for about three hours, according to one account.

She stopped when none of the bodies showed any signs of life.

The woman was hospitalised after being severely beaten by furious neighbours, according to police and her sister.

## Philippine disaster killed 4,000: report

MANILA, Feb 12, (Reuters): Around 4,000 people are believed to have died in a pre-Christmas Philippine ferry disaster which became the world's worst peacetime sea tragedy, a group collating passenger names said today.

The group, made up of relatives of the victims, told reporters it expected a maximum one per cent error in the 3,976 names so far checked and was processing about 100 more from details provided by families.

Government officials who helped compile the list said it was not yet regarded as conclusive but said it had been passed to a separate committee assessing compensation.

**Over-crowding**  
The figure is the biggest firm estimate yet made and doubles previous official estimates.

Only 26 people survived the Dec 20 tragedy when the ferry Dona Paz and the tanker Vector collided in the darkness in the central Philippines. Both vessels burst into flames and sank.

Survivors described scenes of massive over-crowding on the ferry which was bringing people to Manila for Christmas.

The Dona Paz was licensed to carry about 1,500 passengers and its operators, Sulphur Lines, have denied there were more than about 2,000 on board.

Only 117 bodies were recovered by the Philippine coastguard.

The presidential management staff's initial report said 1,158 persons were in the manifest while 2,390 others were missing from the passenger list. The report said 71 crewmen from both ships were also listed.

The coastguard, which is conducting an inquiry, suspended some of its officials for having allowed the ship to take on passengers beyond its capacity.

The group of relatives collating the passenger names, called the Bulig-Bulig Kita Organisation, said Sulphur's offer to pay relatives 30,000 pesos (\$1,500) for each dead family member was not enough.

**State Department trying to avoid Congress order**  
CLOSURE OF PLO OFFICE DELAYED

REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON on Wednesday indicated that possibility might have been discarded and that Attorney General Edwin Meese III would close the mission despite State Department reservations.

Representative Dan Mica said Meese assured him "there would be no attempt to delay the closing of the PLO." Mica said representative Jack Kemp co-authored the Anti-Terrorism Law that orders the PLO mission closed next month.

**Condemned**  
Two radical Palestinian groups condemned attempts by the US Congress to close the PLO mission at the United Nations.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) said the move was part of America's "desperate attempts" to abort the Palestinian protests in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. "The PFLP calls upon the people of the world to urge the transfer of the UN headquarters from America to Geneva or any other country which will ensure freedom to the representatives of the world to practise their duties," it said in a statement.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine said: "This decision uncovers the falsehood of the new US initiative in the region and affirms Washington's insistence on continuing its hostile stand against Palestinian people and their representative, the PLO."

Congress, defying the Reagan administration, voted to shut the PLO information office in Washington and its observer mission in New York.

Diplomats said the General Assembly was likely to be recalled next week to consider the issue and seemed certain to refer it to the World Court for judgement.

**Starving Sudanese search for food**  
KHARTOUM, Feb 12, (Reuters): Starving people searching hopelessly for food wander the streets of the white Nile town of Malakal in south Sudan, a Roman Catholic bishop said in a letter published today.

Bishop Vincent Majok said the town, capital of Sudan's Upper Nile province, was on the brink of disaster with starving inhabitants roaming the streets in a fruitless search for food.

"The town has been enduring siege-like conditions for the past few months," said the bishop. Excerpts of his letter were published in the English-language Sudan Times.

**Extremity**  
"It is extremely dangerous for citizens to venture out into the countryside in search of food," he added. Government troops are fighting guerrillas of the secessionist Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in a savage bush war in southern Sudan.

"The present situation, therefore, is that Malakal is facing imminent catastrophe," Majok said.

"The majority of the population is reduced to extremity. Hundreds of people are roaming the streets in search of food. Many are already close to death through starvation," he added.

Majok, whose letter was addressed to international aid organisations in Khartoum, heads the coordinating committee for relief in Upper Nile province.

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## International conference ends

## AIDS is like a time bomb: Awadi

An Arab Times report

KUWAIT'S Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi described the fatal disease, AIDS as "a time bomb" that may explode endangering the whole world.

Awadi was presiding over the last session of the AIDS conference in Kuwait on Wednesday.

Awadi said no country will be spared from the danger of AIDS and called for preventive measures.

He announced that Kuwait would issue special legislation in near future in an effort to control AIDS.

He denied that the government is planning to establish a hospital to deal with AIDS cases or carriers, but he pointed out that special wards will be set up at the infectious diseases hospital, currently under construction.

Awadi reaffirmed that Kuwait does not have a single AIDS case and that there are only 15 carriers, four of them Kuwaitis. Speaking to a crowd of more than 1,000 at a public session on AIDS on Wednesday, Awadi said that all four Kuwaiti carriers were infected outside Kuwait, two of them through blood transfusions and two through sexual contact. He added that most of the 11 non-Kuwaiti carriers were deported.

Awadi, the former Health

Minister, said that there was no need at present to carry out compulsory blood tests for all residents in Kuwait. But he added that high risk groups, including those who frequently travel abroad, and students are tested for the virus. He claimed that the concerned authorities have taken measures to combat AIDS. He stressed that no one contracted the disease in Kuwait and blood screening at the blood bank is carried out effectively.

He was against measures to isolate patients saying the move would be ineffective and impractical.

He called on the public to abide by the Islamic teaching as the most effective shield from the infection.

Addressing the public, Dr Helmi Wahdan of WHO, said that the number of AIDS cases officially reported to WHO is 79,000 cases, over 75 per cent of them in the two Americas and the rest in Europe, Africa and Asia. But he expressed doubts about the accuracy of the figures as many countries do not report the exact number of cases. He expected that the number may be well over 150,000 cases worldwide.

He said that at least 25 per cent of the carriers will become patients within five years of the infection.

He added that till now, no one knows how a carrier becomes a patient. He stressed that the AIDS virus stays in the body until death. Wahdan said there are at least 10 million carriers in

the world, about three to four million in Africa, one and a half million in USA, one million in Europe. He said that according to the present rate of infection, it is estimated that in three years there will be 250,000 cases in America alone.

He said that in the US and Europe, there are 15 men for every woman infected while in Africa the number is equal.

## Limited

Wahdan said that the number of cases and carriers in Asia is limited and the rate of infection being one per every 100,000. He said that in Africa, the main cause is sexual contact and the rate of infection among prostitutes can be as high as 80 per cent. Wahdan said that sexual contact is responsible for over 90 per cent of the cases, while infection through blood transfusion and from mothers to child is responsible for the remaining 10 per cent.

He said that the AIDS virus attacks all body tissues especially blood and semen. He said that homosexuals are at greatest risk of getting and transmitting AIDS. But he denied that AIDS can be contracted through contact with food, clothes, swimming pools, insects or saliva of the infected person.

Responding to a question, Wahdan said that AIDS cannot be contracted through masturbation, or frequent sexual contact between husband and wife, if the couple is not infected. He also denied that there are drugs to cure AIDS adding that all drugs present in the market are used to assuage symptoms. He revealed that a limited number of cases of AIDS-2, have been discovered.

He said that half of the countries in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean region, have officially reported AIDS cases.

## Symptoms

Dr Abdul Wahab Wali of Saudi Arabia, spoke about the symptoms of the disease. He said that the AIDS virus completely destroys the body immune system. He added that the incubation period of the disease extends from several months to years and in many cases the patient dies in the first year. The main symptoms include fever, diarrhoea, enlargement of lymphatic glands and headache. But as the disease

progresses, the symptoms become more severe. It leads to a complete change in the body with noticeable loss of weight. He said that skin cancer usually afflicts older people, but it attacks AIDS patients of young age. He emphasised that there is no cure for AIDS and no vaccine is expected in 5-10 years from now. He added that the cost of looking after AIDS patients in USA is between \$50,000 to \$100,000 per patient each year.

## Legislation

Ibrahim Al Athari, a lawyer, spoke about the legal aspects of dealing with a disease. He said that the Kuwaiti penal code imposes strict penalties on homosexuals and "illegal" sexual contact, which include imprisonment of five to 10 years. But he said that there is no special legislation to deal with AIDS patients or carriers. He called for such legislation adding that AIDS patients are a great danger to the society. He called for measures to isolate AIDS patients.

Dr Ibrahim Al Sayad of the Health Ministry, spoke about the religious aspects of AIDS. He quoted several prophetic sayings warning Muslims and the whole humanity of the decadent values and ethics. He stressed that this killer disease was mainly caused by the lack of values and decency, particularly in the Western societies. He recalled the epidemic of syphilis in the Roman Empire. He called for abiding to the Islamic teachings and urged authorities to make it possible for young people to marry at an early age.

The international AIDS conference was sponsored by Kuwait's Ministry of Health and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

## Cases

AIDS cases reported to the WHO reach 9.3 per cent in January to reach 77,266 by Jan 31 against 70,670 on Dec 30.

By the end of January, WHO said in its latest monthly situation report, three new countries had signalled the disease to make a total 132 countries with one or more cases.

The United States remained far ahead of all other nations with 51,361 cases as of Jan 31 — or 66.5 per cent of the world total.

## Sheikh Salem meets top Egyptian officials

CAIRO, Feb 12, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Minister of Interior, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, who is currently on a visit here, yesterday met with senior Egyptian officials including Prime Minister Atef Sidki.

Sheikh Salem met with Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid and Defence and War Production Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala.

An official spokesman told Kuna that Sheikh Salem delivered a message from Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad to Abu Ghazala.

The source noted that talks with the Egyptian officials tackled bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

Later Sheikh Salem attended a demonstration of an operation to combat terrorism by a special Egyptian police force.

During his meeting with Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Maguid, Sheikh Salem discussed consultations and cooperation at all levels.

The spokesman added that both also discussed the Iraq-Iran war and ways to bring it to an

end, and the ongoing Palestinian revolt in the occupied Arab territories.

## Identical

Middle East News Agency quoted Sheikh Salem following the meeting as saying that both HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt have identical policies in confronting various Arab issues.

Sheikh Salem stressed that both leaders agree on developing bilateral relations in compliance with Arab, Islamic and international issues, Mena said.

Following the meeting Sheikh Salem called on Egyptian Premier Atef Sidki to discuss issues aimed at enhancing, bilateral relations, the spokesman said.

Speaking to Radio Cairo, Sheikh Salem said his visit is aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and to take a close view of the Egyptian expertise in the security field as well as possibilities of benefiting from this expertise.

The Kuwaiti official arrived here Tuesday to take part in the scientific seminar on contemporary Arab security issues.

## Symposium on desertification

SABAHYA Youth Centre held a symposium on Thursday on the problem of desertification at which the main speaker was Dr Dari Al Ajmi, head of the Environmental Science Department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

Dr Dari said that desertification was a serious problem that caused serious sand and dust storms. These storms inflicted heavy damage on vegetation and was a major sign of the desertification process. Other signs were high temperatures, high winds, lack of rain and the misguided exploitation of the environment by man. He pointed out that piles of sand and other debris left behind by bulldozers were a major contributor to stand storms which cause serious damage to agricultural projects and other public facilities.

Dr Al Ajmi emphasised the need for effective scientific solutions to the problem of desertification which would otherwise have a harmful effect on the national food strategy. He

praised the national trend towards landscaping the environment, as encouraged by HH the Amir, saying that this would contribute greatly to the effort to prevent desertification.

## Consumer protection

NASSER Mohammed Al Ayyar, the Public Relations Director of Kuwait Municipality has urged the public to make full use of the Municipality's Consumer Protection Services if they feel that they have been cheated in any way. He said that the officials at these offices were always ready to deal swiftly with any complaints.

Al Ayyar said that all fish supplies were examined by health inspectors daily. These inspectors would ensure that fish mongers did not mix up imported and local fish. Similar measures are taken while checking fruit and imported vegetables, Ayyar said.

## GULF PRESS

## US peace moves in Mideast criticised

SEVERAL Gulf Arab newspapers criticised US peace moves in the Middle East yesterday, saying they favoured Israel at the expense of Arabs.

The proposals "were made to save Israel from itself," Saudi Arabia's Al Riyadh newspaper said in an editorial. "They lack clarity or positive points which could be negotiated."

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy this week ended a tour of several Middle East states, including Saudi Arabia, to present the proposals.

They include an international meeting in April as a prelude to direct Arab-Israeli talks, followed by discussions on Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories, on Israeli officials said this week.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has rejected the plan because it does not mention the eventual creation of an independent Palestinian state. Several Arab states have also reacted coolly.

Alkhbar Al Khaleej newspaper in Bahrain said Washington's policy was built on "complete neglect for the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular, and defending the Zionist enemy no matter the extent of their terrorism."

Several doilies criticised Washington's refusal to negotiate directly with the Palestinians or to acknowledge that the PLO was the sole representative of the Palestinian people and should be part of any future peace initiatives.

"The running away from the international conference and Palestinian representation, and America's refusal at anything that hints that the PLO is the true representative, means that the conflict will move according to Israel's thoughts alone, and that is no longer acceptable," Al Riyadh added.

Al Khaleej newspaper in the United Arab Emirates described the US proposals as "a true American siege" of the uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, where at least 55 Palestinians have been killed in two months of rioting.

## National Day celebrations committee formed

A COMMITTEE was set up yesterday under the chairmanship of the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Muhammad Al Ahmad to organise programmes and budget of celebrations of the 27th National Day.

The committee was set up in compliance with a cabinet resolution during last Sunday's session which ordered the setting up of the higher ministerial committee under the chairmanship of Sheikh Nasser and membership of Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad and Minister of Education and acting Minister of Higher Education, Anwar Al Nouri.

Accordingly, Sheikh Nasser issued a resolution to form a committee comprising, Information Ministry undersecretary Abdel Aziz Jassir, director general and board chairman of Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) Barjis Al Barjis, deputy director general of Kuna Ahmad Dashed, director of HH the Amir's office Ibrahim Al Shati and director of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's office Abdel Latif Al Bahar.

The committee, also included top officials at the Information Ministry, including assistant

undersecretary for culture, press and censorship affairs Hamad Al Roumi, assistant undersecretary for the minister's office affairs Muhammad Al Roumi, assistant undersecretary for administrative and financial affairs, Fahd Al Hdaib, director of the technical office Ridha Al Faili, director of radio, Dr Abdel Aziz Al Mansour, director of television Salem Al Ali and director of relics and museums department Ibrahim Taher Al Baghi.

The committee also comprises top social affairs and labour officials including assistant undersecretary for youth affairs Abdel Rahman Al Mazroui and director of the minister's office Duaij Al Malek.

In addition, the committee includes, Brigadier Abdel Aziz Jumma, who is director of public security in the Interior Ministry, education assistant undersecretary for information and students affairs Abdel Mohsen Al Saad, deputy head of the municipality's engineers Abdel Rahman Al Duaij, and Defence Ministry director of moral guidance and public relations Colonel Saiman Al Hmoud.

The committee meets Saturday to draw plans for celebrating the 27th National Day.

## Sheikh Hamad to visit UK

LONDON, Feb 12, (Kuna): Qatar's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani will pay an official visit to Britain from March 20 to 23 as a guest of the British government, Kuna has reliably learnt.

Sheikh Hamad, who is also Qatar's Minister of Defence and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed forces, would be received during his stay by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, her Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Defence Secretary George Younger, officials sources here said today.

The discussions between Sheikh Hamad and the British leaders would cover a wide range of issues including the Iran-Iraq war, bilateral relations and the Arab-Israeli dispute, they added.

The Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, paid a state visit to Britain three years ago as a guest of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

Meanwhile, the officials pointed out that Sheikh Hamad's visit

is regarded as part of British efforts to develop relations with Qatar and other GCC countries.

## Two years jail for torturing child

THE Criminal Court yesterday gave a woman a suspended sentence of two years imprisonment on charges of torturing her ten year old step-daughter. The child claimed that her step-mother beat her, branded her with an iron bolt, forced her to strip naked and stuffed hot peppers in the child's private parts.

The woman denied these charges and claimed that the injuries were self-inflicted in a bid to slander the step-mother whom the child blamed for the father divorcing her real mother.

A medical report proved that the child's injuries were consistent with her claims and the woman was found guilty.

## Recommendations

THE head of the AIDS conference's preparatory committee and Assistant Rector of Kuwait University for Research, Dr Kazem Behbehani said that the participants saw no justification for isolating or treating AIDS victims or carriers of the virus differently.

Instead, he said, they should continue their normal social life while given assistance in making them understand their duty towards others, particularly making them cautious in their dealings with others so as not to spread the disease.

"The conference also underscored the necessity to ensure rights of AIDS victims

and disease carriers to health and social care," the official stated.

On the technical side, Behbehani said the conference urged continued publications of information and health awareness about AIDS.

He said the conference recommended development of preventive measures in application, such as ways to watch high-risk groups liable to contract the disease and said national committees to combat AIDS should include representatives of other important sectors of the community, since, he explained, the problem is not only one of health but social and cultural as well.



Two Jordanian Princesses were the guests of honour at a musical concert held at the Mousetrap Theatre of the New English School on Thursday. The picture shows, from left to right, Princess Dina, Tarek Rajab, owner of the school, and Princess Alla.



The New English School choir entertaining the Jordanian princesses who were on a private visit to Kuwait.

## 4,383 died in Kuwait in 1986

GENEVA, Feb 12, (Kuna): In 1986, 4,383 people died in Kuwait, 2,718 of them males and 1,665 females, according to statistics from the World Health Organisation.

In its "World Health Statistics" yearbook it noted that the main cause of death in Kuwait was disease of the circulatory system, with 1,356 fatalities, followed by heart conditions, which caused 628 deaths.

Cancer was another big killer, taking the lives of more than 600 Kuwaitis.

Traffic accidents resulted in the deaths of 287 men and 63 women, with the highest incidence being among males aged in their late teens or twenties.

There were 38 deaths by drowning in 1986, 13 murders or deliberate killings and 16 suicides, the yearbook showed.

## Services at private clinics low, complain patients

PATIENTS at private clinics complain that some services are of a low standard.

They added that some clinics had started adopting a commercial attitude, especially in matters outside the clinic's specialties.

One doctor told a local newspaper that patients and doctors have a strong relationship.

Regarding complaints that some doctors took needless tests in order to make money, he pointed out that nobody would be sure if such tests were necessary or not. The case of each patient has to be considered individually, and generalisations could not be made. But doctors should not direct their patients to a particular laboratory for medical tests and patients should be allowed to make their own choice.

He said there are many private clinics all over the world but few in Kuwait because the government health services were among the best in the world.

Tests Those who visit private clinics have their own reasons. One must not forget that medical services, like any other profession, deserve to be paid for.

The doctor said private clinics are visited by those who did not have the time to visit government clinics, and private hospitals sometimes have more facilities than state hospitals. Patients therefore pay money for better

services and faster treatment.

Another doctor, Dr Hamad Al Ghir, said that doctors should realise that the medical profession is a humane service and should treat their patients on this basis only.

He stressed that doctors will not ask patients for medical tests without reason, but said that tests were necessary for diagnosis. Some medicines might have a negative effect and this called for a medical test before prescription.

## Extension

He said the private health sector presents society with good services and should be considered an extension of the

services offered by the Health Ministry.

He said that doctors at private clinics have served long periods at the ministry and were well qualified to practise medicine.

Dr Sanad Al Fadalah said that doctors at private clinics did not deal with a particular pharmacy, and patients were free to buy medicines at any pharmacy.

A resident, Faleh Al Azmi, said that most patients going to private clinics sought better services than that at government hospitals. But some doctors used this trust for their own benefit. He said medical services should be paid for, but fees should be those fixed by the government.

## Lecture on future of applied education

A LECTURE on the future of applied education in Kuwait was given by the director-general of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Mhailan, at a meeting arranged by the Kuwait Students' National Union (University Branch).

Dr Al Mhailan explained that world countries were currently paying more attention to applied education and training to match technological developments and to meet labour market needs. He stressed that investment in manpower was important for a country's national economic level.

Basis Kuwait has realised this fact and has worked hard to build a strong basis for technical education and training. The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training was established in 1982 for this purpose.

## 3,648 traffic cases in January

THE Traffic Department has issued its report for January 1988. Altogether there were 3,648 traffic cases during this period. Sixty-seven people were jailed for traffic offences ranging from jumping a red signal to drunken driving and manslaughter. A further 73 people had their jail sentences reduced to fines. Eighty-six people had their driving licences withdrawn for various offences.

There were twenty-eight traffic accidents in Kuwait yesterday.



● A new fashion store, Fashionway, opened in Kuwait recently, has women's clothes in styles that are up-to-date, easy to wear, and in attractive colours. It also has fashionable clothes for men and children. All the prices are reasonable. The store has bright lights, which create a warm daylight atmosphere, pleasant, colourful, furniture, and displays that make it easy to select clothes. Pictures show the layout and displays.

ملف من الصحف



## New study on Mideast

## US urged to reassure Iraq on Gulf stability

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, (Kuna): A major American study on the Middle East urged here yesterday the US to "reassure Iraq that the United States has a strong interest in preventing its defeat by Iran."

This recommendation is one of a number of others included in this two-year study by the Middle East Institute and the Atlantic Council entitled, "Western interests and US policy options in the Middle East."

The study, which deals with policy recommendations on the Arab Israeli conflict, the Gulf conflict, the Soviet role, and terrorism, is a product of a panel of more than 50 international affairs experts who hope that some of the recommendations will be adopted by the next administration.

But its main rapporteurs are Jeffrey Kemp, who headed the Middle East section of the National Security Council at the White House until 1985, and Dr Robert Hunter of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

In essence, the study warns that the notion of American disengagement from the Middle East, increasingly popular after the 1983 Lebanon disaster and repeatedly voiced in Congress, is against US interests.

**Moratorium**  
But the study's recommendations on the Gulf region, specially dealing with the Iran-Iraq war, make about ten short-term and medium term recommendations which the 50 experts believe should be followed by this and the next administration coming after it next January.

The "short-term" American approach should consist of the

following, according to the study:

— Reassure Iraq that the US has a strong interest in preventing its defeat by Iran.

— Seek a moratorium, both directly and through countries like Saudi Arabia, on Iraqi attacks against Iranian shipping in the Gulf.

— Test Iranian intentions regarding a ceasefire and negotiations, through carefully-coordinated UN diplomacy.

— If that proves fruitful, reduce the US naval presence in the Gulf to approximately pre-lagging levels. The US should, however, continue to bear key responsibility for long-term security in the Gulf and it should not agree to withdraw all of its naval forces, as the Soviet Union has urged.

**Neutrality**  
In the medium-term, the most important requirement for the US and the West, if peace is unattainable, is to contain the war if possible and to be prepared to respond if not. The study recommends the following for the US to do in the medium-term:

— Reassert its policy of neutrality but be prepared to help forestall, through diplomatic, political, and economic policy, the collapse of either Iraq or Iran.

— If, despite an end to the tanker war, Iran continued to refuse to agree to a ceasefire, press for a strengthened official arms embargo against Iran.

— If Iran engaged in direct military force against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, be prepared with Britain and other allies to take limited military actions.

— Continue to support the efforts of groups and organisations with greater standing — the

Organisation of Islamic conference, the United Nations — to bring about a ceasefire and to move the conflict to the bargaining table.

— Continue to improve central command and to cooperate with Britain, France, and other interested allies on maritime and other military questions.

The study also deals with post-war, post-Khomeini American policies in the Gulf.

**Coordinate**  
The international panelists in this study agree that the US should coordinate with other Western states to improve relations with Iran, "in recognition of its strategic importance and the Western interest in its independence and sovereignty."

"It will be important, however, not to compromise policy further on terrorism or to ignore other issues — such as the spread of Islamic fundamentalism — where there are basic disagreements with Iran," according to the study.

The US should also continue to stress to the Soviet Union the grave threat to East-West relations of its attempting to intervene in Iran, "while assuring Moscow that the US does not wish to establish a military presence in a post-Khomeini Iran."

It urges the US to improve security relations with the Arab states of the Gulf on a basis that will contribute to regional stability.

The study further urges the US "to develop rules of the road concerning the sale of arms to regional countries, in order to lessen the risks of conflict through unbridled arms races."

## Muslim scholars condemn Baha'i faith

RIYADH, Feb 12, (Reuters): Leading Muslim scholars have ended a theological conference with a condemnation of the Baha'i faith which they called atheistic and a threat to Islam.

The Saudi Press Agency reported on Thursday that the Islamic Jurisprudence Council, part of the 46-member Islamic Conference Organisation, issued the condemnation after a six-day meeting in Jeddah which reviewed a wide range of topics related to the Muslim faith.

"Muslim authorities all over the world must confront the dangers of this atheistic (Baha'i) trend which aims to harm Islam," a statement said.

The Baha'i faith, founded in the 19th century by a Persian polemic, claims complete independence from all other religions. It has followers in Iran, Israel and many Arab states.

Baha'is were persecuted in Iran after the Islamic revolution of 1979 and several thousand have fled the country. Exiles say several who stayed behind have been executed.

Most Arab countries have outlawed the faith. Some clerics have accused Baha'is of being a political group dominated by "Zionists" aiming to split the Muslim world.

The council said "distortions and alterations" introduced by Baha'is into Islamic rulings and teachings made them atheistic.

Baha'i precepts include world peace, the brotherhood of man, monogamy and racial and sexual equality.

The council also criticised the Baha'i faith for granting men and women equal inheritance shares. According to Sharia (Islamic law) a woman gets half a man's share.

## Ban on sale of organs for transplant

RIYADH, Feb 12, (Reuters): Islam's leading jurists have prohibited the sale of organs for transplants, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

The ruling, after a six-day meeting of the Islamic Jurisprudence Council which ended in Jeddah on Thursday, was part of a detailed decision that could influence medical practice in the 46 nations represented on the council.

SPA said on Thursday the council, part of the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Con-

ference (OIC), ruled that such organs as the heart or liver may be transplanted from a dead person if permission is obtained from his family or heirs.

But human organs could not be offered for sale in any circumstances, although a person in need of a transplant may spend money in search for the necessary organ.

The council permitted such practices as skin grafting and blood donation, because both the skin and human blood were renewable.

## Kuwaiti men have life expectancy of 71.9 years

GENEVA, Feb 12, (Kuna): The average Kuwaiti man has a life expectancy of 71.9 years, while Kuwaiti women generally live until 74.9 years, according to figures from the World Health Organisation.

However, the long-living Japanese can look forward to an average 75.3 years for men and 81.6 for women, more than in any other nationality, the WHO's world health statistics yearbook for 1987 showed.

The figures revealed that Kuwaiti men live roughly the same number of years as West European citizens, but on average, two or three more years than those in East Europe.

They strongly outperform Latin Americans for longevity, where the life expectancy in some of the poor central American states was put at 60 years, and even in relatively wealthy countries like Uruguay, there was an average 68 years for men.

## Greece warned on Gulf dangers

ATHENS, Feb 12, (reuter): Seven Arab diplomats in Athens expressed their concern to the Greek government yesterday about dangerous conditions for shipping in the Gulf.

The ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait and Morocco, the charges d'affaires of Tunisia and the head of the Arab League office in Athens told Merchant Marine Minister Evangelos Yannopoulos Iraq considered Iran's ports and territorial waters a prohibited war zone.

The diplomats called on Yannopoulos to instruct Greek ship-owners to keep their ships out of the area as Iraq considered any ship there as an enemy vessel.

## Awadi meets Escwa official

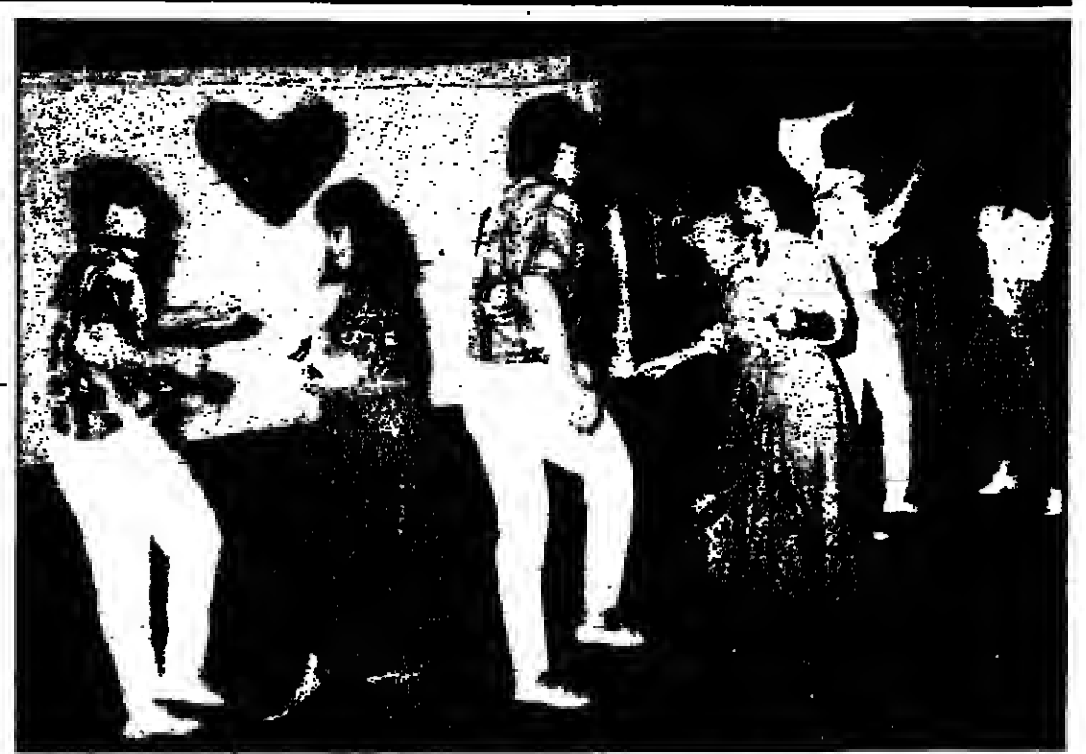
PLANNING Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi met yesterday Secretary General of the Economic and Social Commission of West Asia (Escwa), Mohammed Saad Al-Nabulsi, and discussed ways of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the sphere of development.

Planning Ministry sources told Kuna that Dr Awadi and Al Nabulsi examined how Escwa could technically contribute to the execution of the five-year national development plan in Kuwait.

## Ropme meeting

PLANNING Minister and acting executive secretary general of regional Organisation for Protection of Maritime Environment (Ropme) Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi today opens the third meeting of legal and technical experts on a protocol draft on maritime pollution resulting from the discovery and exploitation of the continental shelf.

The conference will examine the recommendations and proposals which were adopted in the previous meetings of the members of Ropme.



● The Filipino community in Kuwait celebrated Valentine's Day yesterday with a dinner and dance show at Ramada Al Salam Hotel. They also chose the King and Queen of Hearts '88. Some of the Filipinos seen dancing. Full report and more pictures will be published tomorrow. (Photo by Javed Basra).

## Dynasty is creating a furore in Saudi Arabia

DHAHRAN, Feb 12, (AP): The American television soap opera "Dynasty" is creating a furore in the eastern province of Saudi Arabia as it brings into homes what would not pass the strict censorship norms of the kingdom.

The show is broadcast by the English-language channel in nearby Bahrain and is easily picked up in this Saudi province, an oil centre where a large expatriate community including thousands of Americans reside.

The serial, which details the machinations of an ultra-rich American family, is telecast daily and is receiving adverse comments in the kingdom.

Saudi newspapers, apparently also campaigning against the show, on Thursday reported equally adverse reaction from neighbouring Bahrain, only 25 kilometres away.

The show is not unusual fare for television in the more liberal Bahrain, but its permissiveness is strange for viewers in the strictly

Islamic kingdom who are usually treated on English-language channels of Saudi television to a "safe" mix of American sitcoms or documentaries on wildlife. The Saudi censors would cut out a scene of a man kissing the hand of a lady.

Channels catering to the expatriates in the kingdom usually offer movies from the 1950s or comedies in which the characters speak silently at times — meaning what was being said was not good for the viewers and has been cut out.

"Dynasty" is shown on Bahrain Television in English, with no Arabic subtitles.

With either shopping or watching video movies being the main pastimes for many expatriates in the kingdom, "Dynasty" is a novelty and has received a wide audience who have mixed feelings about it.

But according to the Saudi press campaign, the reaction is negative, even among the expatriates. The English-lan-

guage newspaper Saudi Gazette quoted one Indian schoolteacher as saying "I have forbidden my children to watch it."

To back up the campaign against the show, the Gazette also contacted Bahrain and reported the negative line. It quoted David Tucker of the Gulf Daily News as saying his paper has received an unusually large number of letters from its readers commenting on the show.

"The writers have complained that the serial exposes everything bad in Western society and such a programme should not be aired in the Gulf" he was quoted as saying.

Tucker said that those letters were mainly from Bahrain nationals.

Amir Medani of Bahrain Television however told the Gazette that "one cannot please every one." He was quoted as contending that the serials were edited carefully to remove "anything distasteful" to the audience.

## Moscow opposed to new US Mideast peace plan

MOSCOW, Feb 12, (KUNA): The Soviet Union is unequivocally opposed to the new US ideas concerning a settlement for the Middle East crisis, a top Palestinian official said.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), Secretary General of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Nayef Hawatmeh said the Soviet officials be met during his current visit here have told him that they regard the latest US Mideast proposals as "Camp David accords in colours."

He added that Moscow rejects the US plan to provide self-rule for the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which was conveyed by American envoys to the Middle East capitals.

Moscow is also against the idea of holding a regional conference between Israel, Egypt and Jordan, headed by the US and attended by Palestinians, and not the PLO, to agree on the second phase that follows the proposed autonomy, Hawatmeh said.

He further said that this plan, as regarded by the Soviets, "is a process of mixing the self-rule,

stipulated for by Camp David and the condominium plan which Washington and Peres call for."

He stressed that the plan is entirely rejected by the Soviets because it aims at shorting the Palestinians' popular uprising and preventing it from realising its objective which is ending the occupation and securing the right to self-determination "within the framework of international guarantees that can only be provided by the international conference that has full powers."

**Clarifies**  
According to Hawatmeh, the Soviet Union intends to take a political position that clarifies its viewpoint toward the uprising.

He added that his talks with the Soviet officials targeted consolidating and developing the Soviet support to the uprising stressing that the iron-fist policy and breaking of bones followed by Israel and the American manoeuvres which are conveyed by American envoys should be allowed to abort the uprising.

The Democratic Front secretary general called for implementing the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers meet-

ing, particularly the ones on urgent material assistance to the Palestinians under occupation and starting talks with Western Europe and the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

**Gulf war**  
The Palestinian official emphasized the importance of reaching a speedy end to the Iran-Iraq war so that the potentials of Iraq and the Gulf states be employed for the central Arab cause, that is the Palestinian cause and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He pointed out that this issue was one of the top topics he discussed with the Soviet officials he met here and said the Soviet side is prepared to implement the Security Council resolution but this should be carried out with the formation of an international naval force that guarantees an arms embargo on the party that insists on rejecting a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

On the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile, the Palestinian leader said this idea is premature and pointed out the fact that the PLO is internationally recognised and the setting up of such a government will open unwanted side-battles.

## Team for road conference

SECRETARY of Kuwait Engineers Association have set up a delegation to take part in the Middle East third regional conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, organised by the international union for roads.

The association's secretary Wael-Sanei will lead the delegation to the five-day conference which will start on February 13, a statement by the association said.

It is worth mentioning that the Minister of Public Works Abdel Rahman Al Houti, who is currently on a visit to Bahrain, is also scheduled to attend the conference leading a team from his ministry.

## Information committee

TUNIS, Feb 12, (Kuna): The permanent committee of the Arab information meets here next week in its 44th session.

The committee meetings which will convene on February 17 to 19, will be attended by information delegations of Arab states and Arab organisations and unions dealing with information.

The agenda of the meetings centres on Arab information role in supporting the Palestinian people in the occupied lands against Israeli oppression. Other information issues will be discussed including a proposal to establish an Arab TV production company.

## Relief aid to Lebanon due in Syria today

DAMASCUS, Feb 12, (Kuna): Representative of HH the Crown Prince and Premier's Office, Sheikh Mubarak Al Faisal Al Sabah, who is supervising the relief aid to Lebanon, arrived here today.

He was received at Damascus airport by Kuwaiti Ambassador to Syria Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Jasssem and a number of the embassy officials.

The relief convoy, which carried the first consignment of Kuwaiti aid to Lebanon, will arrive in Syria Saturday.

An official ceremony is going to be held in the southern Syrian border for the convoy with the participation of Kuwait Embassy's senior official and Sheikh Mubarak and director of the UN Organisation for Children Care.

Sheikh Mubarak told Kuna that the convoy comprised 67 trucks loaded with various foodstuffs, medical supplies, clothes, blankets and other necessary materials. The convoy also included 30 buses for Lebanese schools.

**Dispatch**  
The Kuwaiti relief aid to Lebanon is estimated at around \$10 million.

He said that the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has ordered the dispatch of another 32 trucks carrying several materials that will leave Kuwait soon.

The Kuwaiti official expressed appreciation to the Syrian authorities for helping to deliver the

aid convoy to the Lebanese authorities.

The dispatch of these convoys, come in implementation of the cabinet resolution upon directives of HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah and President of Organisation of Islamic Conference to ease suffering of the Lebanese people.

The Kuwaiti aid will be received and distributed by Lebanese committee chaired by acting Lebanese Premier Salim Al Hoss.

**Appreciated**

Al Hoss today appreciated Kuwait's step to send food and medical relief supplies and described the donation as "a generous and fraternal grant."

In a cable sent to Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabab Al Ahmed, Al Hoss said he was notified by assistant Arab League Secretary Lakhadar Al Brahimi of the first batch of Kuwaiti relief aid to Lebanon, consisting of 67 truck-loads and 30 school buses which left Kuwait last Wednesday and is expected to reach here coming Monday across Syrian land.

The Kuwaiti assistance, Hoss explained, will be distributed according to a comprehensive social programme to 500,000 school children and their families, numbering 250 thousand, all in a state of deprivation.

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## EDITORIALS

# ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

OUR greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fall — Confucius, Chinese philosopher (551 BC - 479 BC)

## Stark reality in the Gulf

By Thomas O'Dwyer

DUBAI, (Reuters): The air traffic radar operator paled as the blip on his screen — an airliner over the central Gulf — split in two and "something fell off."

The dropped object then turned smartly southeast at high speed. "That was last September. It was one of a group of Iraqi jets attacking (Iran's) Lavan island," said the operator.

An Iraqi pilot flies near an unsuspecting airliner to deceive radar screens, another tries to bluff a Western warship for a "steer" to his target, British and French frigates play waterway chess with an Iranian frigate always numbered seven — but not always the same frigate.

Iraqis and Iranians, Western navies and frightened seamen from a score of nations — all are learning to live by their wits to stay alive in the same crowded Gulf.

Western warship officers say routine has not replaced tension at sea. "Every radar blip is a death threat. I call it the Stark reality," said an American officer.

### Memory

The memory of the Stark — the frigate Iraqi mistakenly attacked last May 17 with the loss of 37 American lives — haunts Americans of every naval rank.

American, European and Soviet warships came to the Gulf last year to confront what they saw as a mainly Iranian threat to their merchant ships.

But many crews have now seen hundreds of Iraqi and Iranian war operations on radar.

Saudi-flown and American-crewed Awacs radar planes send data down to three-dimensional radars on warships such as the missile cruiser USS Richmond K. Turner, until recently stationed in the central Gulf and soon to be replaced there.

Defence officers watch and analyse the countless tracks of planes and boats. Missiles and radar-laid Phalanx fund stand

ready to wipe out any track that threatens American ships from one to 90 miles away.

"Iraqi pilots talk to us. They occasionally get lost and we get worried when they head our way," one US officer said.

"We are neutral, not involved. But let me put it this way, we are also guided by self-preservation," a British military source said when asked if the navy helped lost combat pilots.

Another source said warship commanders suspected that some Iraqi pilots feigned being lost to glean precise steers or positions from the warships.

"The most effective response is to paint them," (with a defence-weapon radar beam), one US officer said. "They high-tail it like a rabbit running into a fox."

Sightings of Iran's Air Force in action are rare. About 70 ageing American F-4, F-5 and F-14 planes leave Iraq's 600-plane force as ruler of Gulf skies.

But Iran's threat to launch suicide missions is provoked by the West, and its Revolutionary Guard speedboats still worry the navies.

### Difficult

"We take no chances with fishing boats or even American press helicopters," one US officer said. "One day we could find that friendly TV helicopter is bogus and a flying car bomb," he added.

"Speedboats give poor radar signatures, rarely use radios and are difficult to detect," said Commander Bob Money of the British frigate Scylla.

An Iranian frigate, whose questioning of cargo ships often foreshadows gunboat attacks, apparently leads a double life.

Numbered seven, it has recently been reported in different two frigates bear the same number.

Merchant ships have tried switching identity too. A Kuwaiti tanker last November painted over its name with that of one sitting in dry dock in Romania.

Iranian gunboats attacked it anyway.

## Needed: composure under shell fire

By Michael Kull

BEIRUT, (Reuters): It's difficult to find a table at Beirut's fancier restaurants these days. They are usually occupied by prospective presidential candidates entertaining potential backers.

The post of president, for which composure under shell fire is needed as much as diplomacy or statesmanship, falls vacant in September when the six-year term of 47-year-old Amin Gemayel ends.

Lebanon's unwritten "National Covenant" of 1943 shares out key posts among the fractured country's main sects, stipulating the president should be a Maronite Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker of Parliament a Shiite Muslim.

The covenant was agreed between Lebanon's Christian and Muslim groups for lack of a formal constitution framework during the struggle for independence from France.

But some Muslim leaders want to overturn the system, saying Christians now are a minority and the current power balance is unfair. This could mean a stalemate that rules out any election.

### Oppose

The powerful leader of Lebanon's Shiites, Nabih Berri, has said he wants the president to be a Muslim and would oppose bolding the election unless there was a new accord between the country's different groups.

"Without national accord, there will be neither a presidential election nor a new government," he said last month.

"The 1943 system gave the presidency to the Christians because they outnumbered the Muslims at that time... now we outnumber them," said Berri.

Muslim fundamentalists advocating an Islamic republic in Lebanon have called on four leading Muslims to stand, including Sheikh Mohamed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, and Shiite leader Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddin.

The other two are Sadiq Muss-

awi, leader of the Haraka Islamiya (Islamic Movement), and Sheikh Said Shaaban, head of the Sunni Muslim Tawheed (Islamic Unification Movement).

If Muslims in the National Assembly back Berri's stand, political analysts say, the election might not be held, with repercussions beyond Lebanon's shores.

"The international community wants the elections to be held on time because any constitutional vacuum would badly confuse the situation," one diplomat said. "Besides, the international community needs a legal entity to deal with in Lebanon."

Syria, the main foreign power-broker in Lebanon with some 25,000 troops stationed here, is unlikely to permit a president to take office of whom it disapproves, analysts say.

The election, if it goes ahead, will be held in August among the 79 surviving members of the 99-seat parliament.

Two thirds of the votes are needed in the first round or a simple majority in a runoff, and the number of interests represented in the assembly means some kind of consensus is required.

Parliament was last elected in 1972 because the civil war that started three years later effectively turned Lebanon into a patchwork of mini-states controlled by different factions.

### Split

The Maronites are split on who should replace Gemayel and about 50 people are reported to be considering standing, up to 15 of them regarded as serious contenders.

"Every rich Maronite is a potential nominee," said one politician.

Only Dany Chamoun, son of former President Camille Chamoun, and ambassador to France Farouq Abi-Llama have said they will run.

Veteran parliamentarian Raymond Gidde, in an interview with a Gulf newspaper last month, implicitly confirmed reports he would stand, saying that if elected he would demand the withdrawal of Israeli troops from south Lebanon.

## Parallels between revolutions in S. Africa and the occupied areas

# Gaza has bred Palestinian desperation

By Ned Temko

LONDON: On the surface, Gaza is not a bit like Soweto.

There is something about the windswept Gaza dunes, the slapping surf of the Mediterranean, the bustling street bazaars, that refuses to conjure up visions of the seamless smog and red brick of Johannesburg's vast black commuter township.

Yet it is the very fact that the present surge of Palestinian violence started in Gaza which points most insistently to parallels between the insurgencies there and in South Africa.

Both are ostensibly being waged under the flag of exiled "national liberation" groups: Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the African National Congress (ANC) of Oliver Tambo. In fact, both are part of a genuinely spontaneous, home-grown upheaval — confronting the PLO and ANC with political choices no less daunting than those facing the Israeli or South African governments.

From its capture by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war until a few weeks ago, Gaza has always been an afterthought, a political footnote for Israel, for the world, even for Arafat's PLO.

Newspaper stories on Israel's relations with the hundreds of thousands of Palestinians that came under its rule in 1967 have invariably referred to the problem of "the West Bank and Gaza," never the other way around. The West Bank is larger, more populous, more developed.

Above all, it includes the Arab half of the holy city of Jerusalem, symbol of Arafat's post-1967 "armed struggle" to "liberate Palestine."

### Desperation

Yet, if the West Bank has long been a place of Palestinian resentment and anger, Gaza has bred Palestinian desperation. Palestinians on the West Bank have Jordanian passports. They have had relatively free access, over the Jordan River, to the management and labour markets of the Gulf states. Those who stayed behind lived in well-established towns, or farm the land in

between. Relatively few live in refugee camps.

Gazans — ruled almost as imperiously by Egypt before 1967 as by Israel since — have refugee documents, not passports. A large portion of the area's 600,000 inhabitants — refugees from the 1948 Arab-Israeli war — lives in camps, as tightly packed as South African townships.

Indeed, under Israel, the Gazans have become the South African blacks of Palestine. They rise at dawn to board buses for day-jobs inside Israel. They return after sundown. Little wonder, then, that they — far more than the West Bankers — have taken refuge in fundamentalist Islam in the wake of Iran's revolution. Little wonder, too, that it is they who have suddenly brought to life two decades of increasingly tired PLO rhetoric about "popular rebellion" against Israeli rule.

That the rebellion there (and in South Africa) represents a challenge to established order is obvious. Less so, though no less important for the future, are the multiple challenges it poses to the PLO.

### Relationship

On the most basic level, the PLO must reach some workable understanding of its relationship with the Palestinians who live in what used to be Palestine, under Israeli rule.

For years this has been a problem, most acutely during the peace-negotiation process started by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's 1977 visit to occupied Jerusalem.

At issue then was how to respond to an Israeli offer of limited "Palestinian autonomy" on the West Bank and Gaza. The PLO rejected it out of hand, as it did US overtures to get sufficient compromises to bring the PLO into the negotiating process. Virtually no prominent local Palestinians wanted to accept the autonomy scheme. But more than a few quietly bristled at what they felt was an impetuous and imperious PLO failure to at least investigate what might have been gained by entering a process of negotiation.

Now the situation is reversed: grass-roots Palestinian violence will make political compromise difficult for the PLO, even should it decide that such compromise might help win diplomatic gains from the present Palestinian unrest.

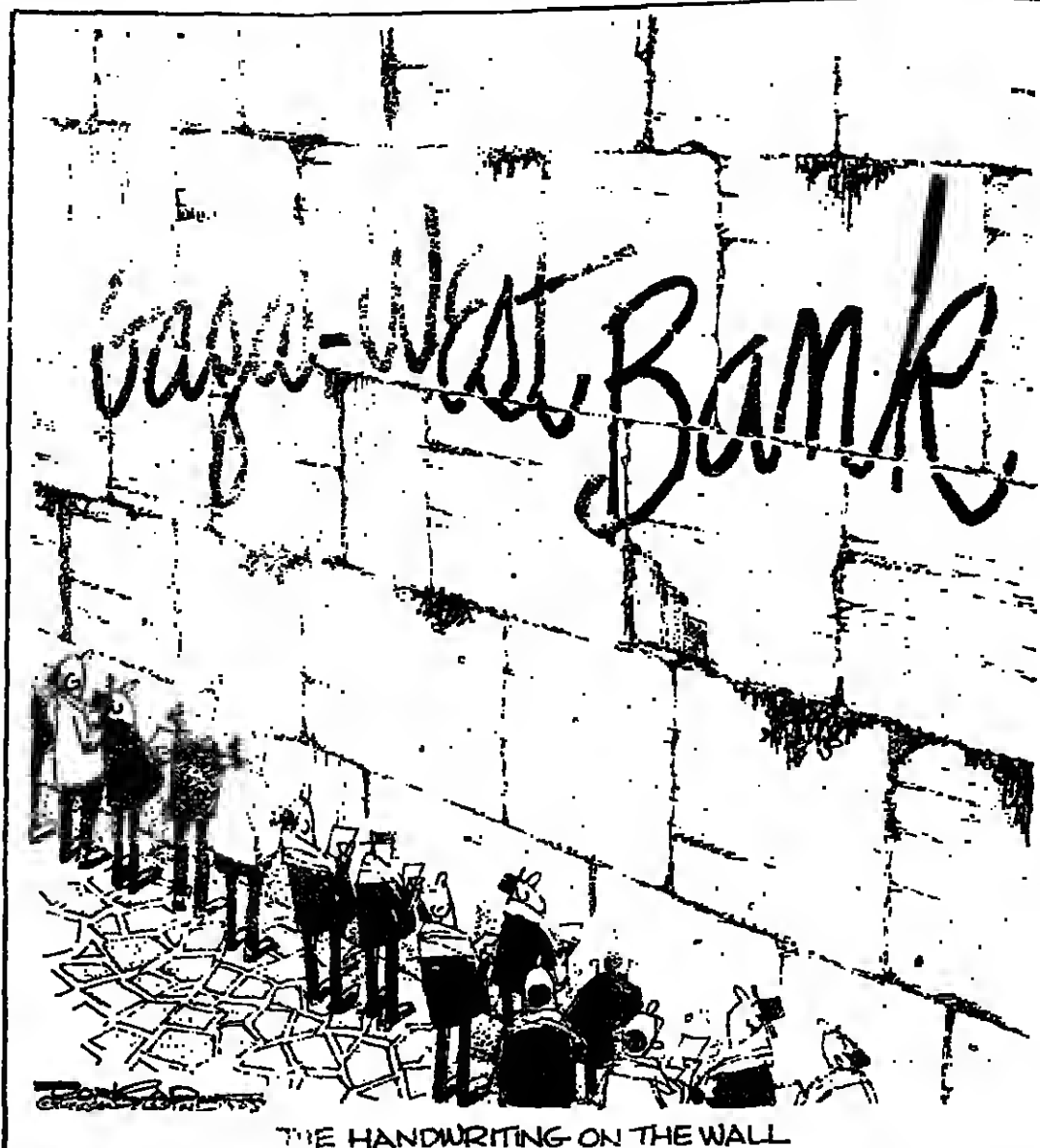
### Upbeat

So far, Arafat's instinct on responding to the violence seems oddly reminiscent of Israel's: play things safe, don't take too many political risks. For Israel, it means putting top priority on literally beating down unrest and restoring order. For the PLO — if an Arab meeting and recent Arafat interviews are any indication — this seems to mean going heavy on the rhetoric of rebellion, and much more softly on the idea of making the concessions necessary to gain world backing for any new PLO diplomatic offensive.

Various Western news organisations — including the Washington Post and France's Le Monde — have spoken with Arafat in the past few weeks. The interviewers' impressions were almost identical: the PLO chief was upbeat, almost celebratory, about the rebellion against Israeli rule; and he was at pains to demonstrate the PLO was in control.

Yet on touchy diplomatic issues — possible formation of a "government in exile" (implying trading in pistols for pinstripes) or the long-fudged question of recognising Israel's right to a secure existence in any peace settlement — Arafat was only slightly less difficult to pin down than in the old days.

There are probably several reasons for this. The first is that Arafat has always shown a weakness for getting caught up in his own rhetoric. In this case, the brink-of-victory talk that the South African ANC has come to understand as easier voiced than redeemed. More than this, Arafat presumably fears any move toward accepting Israeli statehood would lay him open to a challenge from rivals for the Palestinian leadership. Recognition of Israel, Arafat and his aides have always argued, is the PLO's main diplomatic card.



THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

They fear playing it too early.

In one sense, Arafat does seem to have changed. He is, aides say, contemplating such issues as the government-in-exile and acceptance of Israeli with a new seriousness. In another sense, he remains the same, notably in his concern about dealing away the recognition card without reciprocity.

The fact is — and this is a lesson the ANC has learned about South Africa more speedily and thoroughly — that

the Israeli government is simply not going to offer such reciprocal recognition any time soon, particularly if it risks appearing to do so under the pressure of stone-throwing Palestinian youths. Israel has the political and military strength to hold its course on this.

If the PLO choose to play its card, it would have to do so in tacit recognition that violence alone will not achieve its political aims. If Arafat does move to meet Western and Israeli condi-

tions, he will be taking a political risk — the risk of losing leverage in the short term, in hopes of helping initiate a negotiating process that will build, slowly and not necessarily surely, on pressures the violence has created inside Israel.

But the alternative may be to risk missing the moment of compromise, watching the "Palestine conflict" fade from the public agenda once the established order has reestablished itself. The Christian Science Monitor.

## East Germany is at odds with itself

# Clamp-down on dissidents

By Elizabeth Pond

BONN: After a decade of gradual liberalisation, the East German government is once again clamping down on its mild dissidents and on the protection they are afforded by the Protestant church.

The penalties exacted by the state recently include:

● The sentencing to six-months in prison without bail of Vera Wollenberger, co-founder of the "Church from Below" and an activist who refuses to leave East Germany.

● The expulsion of some 60 applicants for emigration who demonstrated to publicise their demand, and the sentencing of up to one year's imprisonment of five others who helped organise a support group of those denied exit permits.

● The arrest on charges ranging up to treason (carrying possible life imprisonment) of at least 11 activists who want to reform rather than leave East Germany.

● The forcible placement of the children of one jailed couple, Regina and Wolfgang Templin, in an orphan's home.

● The harassment of detainees for one or two days of dozens of sympathisers with the arrested dissidents.

● The resumption of shooting at would-be escapees at the Berlin Wall.

### Contradiction

At stake here is not only domestic orthodoxy, but also East Germany's assiduous cultivation of a less repressive image abroad. These two contrary urges of the Socialist Unity (Communist) Party have become increasingly difficult to reconcile.

The original transgression of those arrested or expelled was to try to join an official communist march Jan 17 in honour of pre-World War I revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg while carrying banners quoting Luxemburg's appeal from the Kaiser's prison: "Freedom can only be real if it is freedom for those who think differently."

In a revealing comment in the party newspaper Neues Deutschland, Heinz Kunitz, president of the East German chapter of the PEN writers' association, castigated the demonstrators for having committed "blasphemy."

The "Church from Below" is a loose network of small groups, modelled on grass-roots peace organisations of West German Christians, who espouse peace, environmental protection, and observance of human rights.

Resumption of firing by border guards at East German

escapees follows several months of no shooting after East German leader Erich Honecker visited West Germany last September.

At the time, West Germans hoped that a cryptic remark by Honecker that conditions at the border were "not as they should be" meant the practice would cease. Even without shooting, there are formidable electronic and physical barriers along the frontier for any East German attempting to flee.

Until now (ever since the watershed expulsion of balladeer Wolf Biermann in 1976), the East German mix of expulsions of uncomfortable dissidents plus grudging tolerance of private lifestyles seemed to be effective.

### Allowed

Since 1978, the Protestant Church (the combined Lutheran and Calvinist churches) has been the one institution not steered by the party to have official sanction for its autonomy.



Honecker

In the 1980s, East German activists have been allowed to promote their causes within church walls as long as they don't carry their campaigns to the street.

In the past two years, there has been a striking increase in the numbers of working-age East Germans allowed to travel in the West.

So long as a fairly static situation prevailed in East-West relations, this policy succeeded in getting rid of troublemakers and securing the docility of those remaining. It may not have built a society that citizens identified with positively, but it persuaded the bulk of East Germans to shun overt social action and settle for living in what is called a "niche" society conforming to the proper ideology at work but gripping and living in a world of West German television in one's own "niche" at home.

Even the experimentation of the past four years of political

rapprochement with West Germany and of the last two years of freer travel abroad by young East Germans seemed to work without upsetting the equilibrium.

In 1986, some 500,000 people under retirement age — 1.5 million in 1987 — visited West Germany, and 99 per cent returned home afterwards. It looked as if the 1950s' flow of three million to the West (out of a population of under 20 million) had been stanchied and one day the Berlin Wall might even become superfluous.

But then East German efforts to court international recognition by more civil treatment of citizens, the nudge toward more glasnost (openness) by the patron superpower, the Soviet Union; the onset of a new generation; and modestly rising expectations by East Germans converged to disrupt the balance.

### Thorn

East Germans like balladeer Stefan Krawczyk — a particular thorn to the authorities for being an official favourite who quit the party on his own initiative in 1985 and refuses to emigrate to the West — last year called explicitly for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms to be introduced in East Germany.

In November, the party finally signalled its unhappiness over the escalation in demands and the creep of environmental literature into the public domain by arresting activists who it thought were using church premises to publish "Grenzfall" ("Borderline Case"), an ecological journal distributed outside of church circles. (The activists publish other, permitted environmental pamphlets under church aegis and maintain the country's only known ecological library in the Zion church in East Berlin).

After Protestant leaders stood behind those arrested and numerous Christians joined prayer vigils in the church — reactions that would have been unthinkable a decade ago — the state backed down and released those detained. But after the reformers and would-be emigrants tried to join the Luxemburg march, the authorities made their arrests and expulsions, and prosecutors filed their charges against Krawczyk and several others for "treason."

The government now faces a dilemma. It must display more tolerance at home to win more acceptance abroad; this tacit trade-off finally won Honecker his first trips to Bonn and Paris during the past five months, and he would dearly love to be invited to the US as well.

The Christian Science Monitor.

## Pessimism pervades Brazil

# A broken showcase

By Carlos Lins da Silva and John Hewko

BRASILIA: Although Brazil has always been known for the good humour and spirited optimism of its people, there is — among many Brazilians — a climate of widespread pessimism about the country's future. Such concerns appeared to be fully warranted as Brazil began 1988 with a crisis in its Finance Ministry.

But that's not all. Brazil faces the prospect of an annual inflation rate of more than 400 per cent and enormous uncertainty as to the ideological tone and system of government the Brazilian Constituent Assembly will adopt as it drafts the country's new constitution.

It was not long ago that Brazil, the largest country in Latin America, seemed destined to become one of the world's economic showcases. Utilising its enormous natural resources and a great deal of economic savvy, Brazil staged an economic "miracle" in which it converted its economy into the eighth largest in the capitalist world and created an industrial infrastructure envied by much of the developing world. How is it, then, that Brazil today finds itself confronting a social, political, and economic upheaval that threatens to push the country to the brink of chaos as happened to Argentina some years ago?

### Transition

Much of the blame for Brazil's current problem rests with the civilian government, which took power in 1985 when 21 years of military rule were finally put to an end. Although both President Jose Sarney and the Brazilian Congress are to be commended for overseeing a relatively peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy, most Brazilians today view the civilian government as having failed in its promise to provide Brazil with the political leadership and vision the country so desperately needed.

The turn from the euphoria of the 1985 return to democracy to the disappointment and frustration of 1988 is due in large measure to the unwillingness of Brazil's newly elected politicians to abandon the undesirable habit of placing personal concerns over those of their constituents. The need to create workable solutions to Brazil's burgeoning economic and social problems was quickly forgotten as politicians eagerly sacrificed the country's long-term interests for short-term political gains.

Perhaps the most egregious example was the enormous pressure placed on Sarney by the congressional leadership to manipulate his economic recovery programme — the highly acclaimed Cruzado Plan — so as to ensure an overwhelming victory for the majority party in Congress, the Brazilian Democrat Movement Party, in the November 1986 congressional and gubernatorial elections.

### Battles

The Constituent Assembly, entrusted with the task of drafting a "modern" constitution, succumbed to the winds of political and ideological expediency and has degenerated into a battle between politicians intent on producing a document that best protects their personal aspirations. The Constituent Assembly has also served as a forum in which the Brazilian left has attempted to raise from the dead outdated slogans and ideology.

At a time when the Soviet Union is proposing increased joint ventures with United States companies, and China and other socialist countries are opening their economies to foreign capital, the Brazilian left appears to be embarked on a "nationalist" campaign to protect the country's "national sovereignty."

The Christian Science Monitor.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1542 — England's Queen Katherine Howard is executed.
- 1601 — John Lancaster leads first East India Company's voyage from London.
- 1633 — Italian astronomer Galileo arrives in Rome and is detained by Roman Catholic inquisition.
- 1689 — English Parliament adopts a Bill of Rights.
- 1692 — Massacre of Scottish highlanders at Glencoe after refusal to swear allegiance to England's King William III.
- 1782 — French take St Christopher in West Indies.
- 1820 — Duc de Berry, heir presumptive to French throne, is assassinated.
- 1856 — Britain annexes Oudh, increasing Indian hostility to British rule.
- 1861 — Francis II of Naples surrenders at Gaeta to Giuseppe Garibaldi.
- 1874 — Treaty of Fommenah, under which King Koffie of Ashanti, West Africa, promises free trade, open road to Kumasi, and agrees to pay indemnities to Britain and stop human sacrifices.
- 1945 — Allied forces capture Budapest, Hungary, in World War II.
- 1961 — UN Security Council urges use of force to prevent civil war in the Congo.
- 1968 — Ten thousand US troops are in process of being transported to South Vietnam on speed up basis as fighting increases in that country.
- 1975 — Turkish Cypriots proclaim separate administration in Turkish-occupied northern part of Cyprus.
- 1987 — Libyan warplanes carry out more bombing raids on northern Chad desert towns of Fada and Zouar.



## Hanna K. comes to Kuwait

HANNA K., a film by Costa Gavras, opens today at Kuwait's Cinema Al Salmiya under the patronage of the Minister of Information. The film "expresses agony and dilemma" of the Palestinian individual in the occupied territories.

Gavras, who is known for his previous box-office successes "Z" and "Missing", focusses on a strong Arab presence in the occupied territories.

Hanna Kaufman is a Polish-American Jewish immigrant who lived in Paris before arriving to the country. Hanna lost her family in the Holocaust, abandoned her French Catholic husband and came to Jerusalem to solve her identity crisis. After obtaining her law

degree, she becomes emotionally involved in defending a Palestinian, who sues the state for the return of property his family had abandoned in the 1948 war.

The film emphasises the humanity of the Palestinian in contrast to the fanaticism of the Jews, which is stressed in the political scenes. Refugees, refugee camps, deserted Arab villages, prisons, massacres and bombings are also shown.

### Nature

The Jewish film critic — when it was released in 1983 — rejected Hanna K. saying (the film) is a shallow and meaningless story, beset with inaccuracies and distortions.

Arabs, however, feel that the racist nature of Israeli society is depicted in the film, Hanna K.

The idea of producing the film began in 1979 when Costa Gavras visited occupied Jerusalem and the West Bank saw the "reality of the tragic conditions of the Palestinian people under the occupation forces." He also met mayors and Palestinians in Hebron, Nablus, Haifa and Ramallah.

Hanna K., starring Jill Clayburgh in the title role, has been scripted by Franco Salinas, and shooting began in 1982. It was released in early 1983 and has received mixed reviews causing controversy in the press and media.

By Jadranka Porter

THE American film festival, titled Film and the Law, begins today with most of the live movies on the programme depicting how the Americans use, and abuse, the rights guaranteed them by the constitution.

The event opens with the screening of Mr Smith Goes to Washington, a story of a US senator who tries to expose corruption at the cost of his own career. The festival ends on a slightly different note with another movie on politics. The Best Man deals with the fight between two leading contenders for the presidential nomination of their party. One is a true Mr Clean, the other is only too ready to compromise to gain his ends. Neither wins.

The director of The Best Man, Franklin Schaffner, in a

American film festival opens today

## Schaffner with a difference

telephone conversation on Tuesday with a group of film critics in Kuwait said the movie was a witty piece dealing with the conflict between the good and the bad. "The film purports to show that you cannot be exclusively good or bad. There is an area in between," Schaffner said.

### Historical

The movie is not a typical Schaffner production. He is best known for films with a historical perspective such as Patton, Nicholas and Alexandra, Papillon and The Boys from Brazil. He admits that he is more comfortable dealing with themes from a historical point of view than with the contemporary issues. He strives to

accurately portray characters and situations without taking a position for or against a particular event or a historical personality, he said. But he has sought out characters who lived extraordinary lives packed with exciting drama. One such example is the story of Papillon which attracted Schaffner because of its dramatic adventure and the underlying issue of the fight for individual freedom.

"There is a great deal of truth in that story and it offers a compelling portrayal of a strong individual," Schaffner said.

Schaffner started his career in 1948 producing live TV drama. He was the recipient of

Emmy Awards in 1954, 1955 and 1962. When the form was no longer "acceptable or affordable" in early 1950s he moved to theatre directing. In 1960 he received Best Director award for a Broadway play, Advise and Consent. His movies include The Striplper, War Lord, Double Man, The Planet of the Apes, Islands in the Stream and Yes Giorgio.

Schaffner declined to single out any of his movies as his best. "All my children are equal. There were some that were not successful at all but I extracted a tremendous amount of joy in making them," he said.

He described the Hollywood movie scene as healthy with a number of independent movie

makers coming up, with more films being made than ever and with box office receipts surpassing the previous records. The contemporary audience reaction constantly changes, a worrying fact for the film producers, he says.

But what does have an impact on films is the audience age level, and to Schaffner's delight the audience age level is moving upwards.

Schaffner hasn't had a film released since 1982, when Yes Giorgio came out to get a lukewarm reception. But he is planning to launch a movie sometime this year. It is titled Lion Heart and preselects another trip into the past, this time to the 12th century, giving a fictional version of the children's crusade.

For American film festival programme see the What's On column.

## TV CORNER

### This week on KTV 2



Impressionist Tracey Ullman entertains on Tuesday nights.

### SUNDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Lone Ranger: "Yellowstone Conspiracy". The Lone Ranger's adventures continue for young viewers.

6.30 Butterfly Island: "What Are Friends For?" The children learn the difference between jealousy and love.

7.00 Understanding Islam: a weekly local show on Islam.

7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a Wacky look at sporting events.

8.00 New in English  
8.40 Hot Shots: "Tails? You Lose." In this episode the crime reporters are after a story about a contraband.

9.30 Foley Square: "Courtship." A new employee in the office wins Molly's confidence; and Alex shows interest in Josh.

10.00 Q.E.D.: "How To Succeed Without Trying." A look at ALPHA's new programme to help mentally retarded patients and neurotics.

10.30 Best Seller: "Space". This week sees the start of a new best-seller, set in Nazi Germany. It tells the story of a scientist who experiments successfully with space rockets and is harassed by the government.

12.00 News Summary Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

### MONDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Yogi's Treasure Hunt: cartoons

6.30 The Animal Express: a look at a rare species of ostrich; removal of tumours from animals.

7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news, presented by KTV.

7.30 Chintz: Richard plans to make a video film about his wife doing household chores, but a friend disrupts his plan.

8.00 News in English  
8.40 The Law and Harry McGraw: McGraw takes up the cause of an innocent person framed for criminal activities.

9.30 Horizon: BBC documentary "Recollections on a River".

10.30 Mini-Series: "A Year in the Life". Gardner proposes marriage and is turned down by his lady-friend.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

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### WEDNESDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 The Get Along Gang:

### TUESDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Rainbow Bright: Cartoons

6.30 Side Kicks: "The Worst of the Mohicans." Arnie brushes up his skills to rebuild his strength.

7.00 Beyond 2000: a look at new electronic equipment, such as typewriters, using sea weed to heal burns; tension reducers and other stories.

8.00 News in English  
8.40 You and the Law: a local programme

8.50 Heart of the City: "Rough Ride." Kennedy is asked to investigate the case of wife battering; and faces stiff opposition from a woman who refuses to cooperate with the police.

9.30 Documentary on Kuwait: Tracey Ullman Show: a 30-minute comedy featuring short sketches. In this episode, an office worker finds out that she is not indispensable.

10.30 Hobson's Choice: (1983). A remake of the Charles Laughton classic film. Sharon Gless cast as the shoemaker's daughter, formerly a spinster, who takes control of her life and turns her mousy husband into a confident, caring man. Duration: 104 minutes.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

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12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

### THURSDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Sports Studio: Big League Soccer, American basketball and sports magazine

6.30 Centurions: cartoon serial

6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club: "Toby Tyler". Part 5.

7.00 Rags to Riches: Foley builds a hotel while his girls become street vendors.

8.00 News in English  
8.40 Spenser for Hire: "An Eye For An Eye." Spenser's reputation is threatened by a defamation suit and his alleged involvement with gangsters.

9.30 Bill Cosby Show: "Theo's Flight". Theo wants to take flying lessons; but father Huxtable is not happy about the bill.

10.00 Paul Daniels Magic Show: British illusionist Paul Daniels returns with more magic and tricks.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Desperate Voyage". Starring Christopher Plummer, Cliff Potts, Christine Belford, Lara Parker, Jonathan Banks. Plummer plays a villainous modern-day pirate who waits for SOS signals; and then proceeds to give the troubled seamen anything but help. Duration: 104 minutes.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

### FRIDAY

6.00 Holy Quran  
6.10 Sports Studio: roundup of world and local sporting events.

6.30 Sher Ra — Princess of Power: "A Loss of Words." Cartoons.

6.30 Airwolf: "Code of Silence." After a helicopter crash, a member of the Airwolf team is accused of negligence.

7.30 Splitting Image  
8.00 News in English  
8.40 Breaking Away

9.05 Madstock: "The Affair". A maid working with a wealthy couple is accused of killing her employer. The dead man's widow is convicted the maid is innocent.

9.30 Weekend: local programme

10.00 What A Country: "Citizenship Pains." Nicolai is convinced he is being followed by the KGB; Mr Brown has a plan.

10.30 Crime Story: "Ground Zero". Lucas is acquitted by the court; and triumphantly he rebuilds the under-ground empire.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

## KTV 1 weekly highlights

### SUNDAY

7.30 Divaniyat Shura Al Nabt: a weekly programme featuring Nabt poets and their works, directed by Faisal Al Otaibi

10.50 Variety Show: featuring the Iraqi Folklore Troupe, which took part in the 1987 Jerash Festival.

### MONDAY

7.15 Ifalna: Wal Mustaqbil: "Our Children and Their Future". Part Two of this programme deals with children in the Arab and Gulf countries.

10.50 Daerat Al Ahdath (Circle of Events): Kamel Sulaiman, in part two, examines the "Fishing Industry" and "Marine Resources". Guests are Hassan, Muhammad Hassan, Kuwait University; Dr Mohammad Abdullah Saif, KISR; and Adoo Khalifa Rushoud.

### TUESDAY

4.15 Ghayoum Bila Matar: episode 6 of daily Arabic serial, featuring Mahmoud Abu Ghareeb, Abner Essa, Rashida Al Dajani.

7.35 Al Quds: 20 Years On: The last episode of this series examines the problem of employment and the financial difficulties faced by Arabs in the Occupied Territories.

10.45 Al Rabe'a Fi Al Asafat: part six of new serial, starring Mustafa Fahmi, Hina Tharwath, Ahsan Qalawi, Hussein Sharbini.

### WEDNESDAY

5.15 Bain Al Ams Wa Al Yams: Between Yesterday and Today is a local programme for children. This episode examines the development of communication

systems.

7.45 Folklore: Mohammad Al Mutairi presents glimpses from Arab-Gulf folklore.

10.50 Music, Song and dance: a variety show featuring top Arab singers, composers and performers.

### THURSDAY

10.00 am Ft Rihab Tariya: a weekly educational programme, this series examines the problems of schooling and the system of education in Kuwait.

11.30 Al Islam Wal Insan: religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Abdul Suboor Shaikh.

4.45 The Sabot: Roger Moore's latest detective Simon Templar.

10.30 Al Mushaghabat Al Thalatha: Arabic film starring Karam Mutawa, Laila Alwi, Iham Shabio, Gbada Al Shamas, Ali Al Shariff. The story of three girls who are oo the run.

### FRIDAY

10.20 Hikayat Min Al Alam: Stories from the World. Dramatised stories for children.

11.00 Lecture on Islam by Dr Ahmad Abu Al Nur.

4.00 Saifed Jhoat: Hindi feature film, starring Ashok Kumar, Raaksh Koshan. A successful business executive takes his wife on a honeymoon, where they meet the husband's boss. Comedy.

11.00 Qudh Elud Al Ma'arafi: part 7 featuring Ahmad Al Saleh, Maryam Al Saleh, Huda Hussein, Ibrahim Al Harbi. A play about the family and its role in two Gulf societies — Kuwait and Bahrain.

## WHAT'S ON

### THEATRE

KLT Kuwait Little Theatre (KLT), Ahmad, will hold auditions for the Summer Musical at its premises at 7.30 pm on Feb 16 and 19. Backstage helpers also needed. For further details contact 3985246 after 3 pm.

Kuwait Players "Do Not Disturb," an adult comedy written by Michael Pertwee will be performed at 8 pm on Feb 22, 23, 24 and 25 at the Universal American School. For reservations ring 5613465; 574838; 5618244. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Feb. 13: Mr Smith Goes to Washington; (1939) director: Frank Capra. Starring: James Stewart, Claude Rains, Edward Arnold. A naive man is elected to US Senate, but he doesn't conform to the pattern set for him by his backers and tries to expose corruption at the cost of his own career. Duration: 130 minutes.

Feb. 14: Modern Times; (1936); director: Charles Chaplin. Starring: Charles Chaplin, Paulette Goddard. One of the all-time greats, a sensational one-man show by Chaplin, writing, directing, producing, scoring and starring in his saga of "everyman" in all times. It is a story of a tramp who moves from factory worker to department store janitor to singing waiter, as modern times knock him cruelly about. Duration: 87 minutes.

Feb. 15: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman; (1974); director: John Korty; starring: Cicely Tyson, Odetta, Michael Murphy, Colin Wilcox. One of the best movies ever made for American TV. Cicely Tyson won an Emmy award for her performance in the role of a 110 year-old woman who was an

ex-slave, and lived to take part in a civil rights demonstration in 1962. Miss Jane is a fictional character but the incidents are based on real events that took place throughout the South after the Civil War. Adapted from Ernest J. Gaines novel. Duration: 100 minutes.

Feb. 16: All the King's Men; (1950); director: Robert Rossen; starring: Broderick Crawford, Mercedes McCambridge, John Ireland, Joanne Dru, John Derek. Oscar winner as the Best Film of 1950. One of the best films on the rise and fall of a politician. Broderick Crawford won an Oscar as Best Actor while Mercedes won in the Supporting Actress category. Duration: 109 minutes.

Feb. 17: The Best Man; (1964); director: Frankli Schaffner; starring: Cliff Robertson, Henry Fonda, Lee Tracy. Based on Gore Vidal's perceptive and outspoken play, it deals with the hot-and-heavy fight between two leading contenders of the Presidential nomination of their party. One of the best American movies about politics. Duration: 102 minutes.

All films will be shown at 7.30 pm, promptly. Children not allowed inside the auditorium. The festival has been organised by the

which will be held from Feb 13 to 17 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The following films will be shown:

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American Embassy in Kuwait in tandem with Kuwait Cine Club.

## SOCIAL

Kuwait Society For Handicapped

An open souk featuring everything from silks to groceries, silverware to rugs and toys, is being held at the premises of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped, behind Andalus Cinema, Cairo St. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 3 to 7 pm, until Feb 15.

Kuwait Nomads Quiz Night

The Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club will hold Quiz Night on Feb 17. Teams of four, must include one lady. For details and team registration contact Jon Evans (5339867) or Tony Sole (5330507) by Monday, Feb 15.

Music Concert '88

Adob, Lynley (vocals), Ammar (guitar/vocals), Aasim (keyboard-synthesizer), Mur-taza (bass guitar) and Raza (drums) will participate in the Music Concert '88, due to be held on Feb 19 at Al Andalus Cinema. They will present a variety of songs, originally sung by such groups as Duran Duran, Europe, Bonjovi and others. Tickets available at Al

Andalus box office. For details contact — 5618482 or 3983165 (Adob).

Kapilku Photography Contest

Kapilku invites its members to take part in a photography contest entitled "Portraits of Filipinos in Kuwait". Last date for sending in entries is March 1. Entry forms available from all Filipino restaurants and the Philippines Embassy. For details phone Dick Orense — 4877793.

Kuwait Welsh Society

Annual St David's Day dinner at Messiah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912384.

## SPORTS

Raft Race

Raft Race 1988 entry forms and rules are now available from the Messiah Beach Hotel. First campaign's meeting at MBH, Al Foz Suite, on March 1, 6.30 pm. For further details contact the hotel, ext. 712/751/705.

All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwahk. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Al Cairo Pharmacy

Tukhaim Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.

Ibn Rushd Pharmacy

Duaj Market, Souk Al Kuwait Bldg.

Hawalli and Nagra

Al Wahid Pharmacy

Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumailhiya

Al Shifa Pharmacy

Anjari Complex, Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahad and Almadhi

Al Bahiya Pharmacy

Dahbous St. F'heel

Khalitan

Al Hayat Pharmacy

Maio St.

Jahra

Al Zahra Pharmacy

New Market



## A new sensation hits the charts

## Move over Madonna, Tiffany's taking over

She is talented, beautiful and has earned £3 million from her first single. Yet Tiffany, pop's newest sensation, still has not finished high school.

By Georgina Gold

MORE over, Madonna, a new sensation has hit the charts ... and she is tipped to take your crown as the Queen of Rock.

Her name is Tiffany Darvish and at sweet 16 she has the looks and voice to wow millions.

So far her first release, I Think We're Alone Now, has reached No. 1 in America and Britain and gone gold in New Zealand, Japan and Australia.

And that means she is already a millionaire, having earned a staggering £3 million. That is before she has even left school!

Her album, entitled simply Tiffany, has gone platinum three times over in America selling 2,500,000 copies, an achievement matched by few other artists.

Yet Tiffany did not think much of the single when she first heard it. She says: "I thought it was very old-fashioned. I had to be persuaded to do it, but I'm glad I did."

"But I still don't consider myself a star. I have got off to a great start, and I hope it continues to happen this way. But I'm



Tiffany: combining singing and schoolwork is her biggest problem.

the kind of person who takes things day by day.

"I would love to have a career like Madonna's but I don't want to be as sleazy as her."

Now the pundits are eagerly predicting that the 16-year-old redhead will be much more than just a one-hit wonder.

She has certainly worked hard at building up a sizeable following. Last year she toured high schools throughout America alongside the well known band The Jets. She also took her music direct to the people, in a novel shopping mall tour. A repeat in Britain caused scenes of near frenzy as huge crowds turned out to catch a glimpse of their new teen idol. And within days the single was number one.

She adds: "The shopping mall tour was a lot of fun. I met a lot of people and got to develop relationships with them."

"I had a mixed audience — older people, young people. Grandmothers brought their grand-daughters, it was great."

In fact in London, so many fans flocked to see Tiffany, promoters feared the balconies in the three storey shopping centre could give way from the sheer weight of the crowd.

## Impressed

The youngsters, many of whom had taken time off school for the mini-concert, were impressed with what they saw. It did not matter to them whether or not they got into trouble with teachers for skipping school.

What really mattered was they had seen their teen idol in action — and they liked what they saw. Schoolboy Richard Aarney, aged 16, said: "I saw her on television and I thought she was really gorgeous, and now I think she's even nicer. She's really good-looking and she's got a brilliant voice."



"I don't want to be another Madonna yet... I'm just happy to be me," says the new pop sensation Tiffany.

Teenage fan Sharon Gregg, 15, said: "It was great that we could see her for free. I wouldn't be able to afford tickets for a concert, so this is a great idea."

But just like any other clothes-mad teenager, Tiffany found it impossible not to dive into the nearest fashion shops while on her shopping centre tour.

She has the distinct advantage over most other teenagers though — she has a near limitless budget.

She says: "Whenever I perform my music in shopping centres I always come out poorer than I went in."

"My manager is going to have to find places where I can't spend. I'll probably be the first artist ever to play a world tour of golf clubs!"

Tiffany started singing when she was just two, and over the years has sung with a succession of bands, from jazz and pop to rhythm and blues.

And she can make her voice sound like any other singer she wants. Even now there are four different versions of I Think We're Alone Now stored in her producer's office.

Tiffany from Norwalk, in California, adds: "When I record a song, I'm told to do it like Chaka Khan, then we do it again as, say, Stevie Nicks of Fleetwood Mac."

"This carries on until we have four different versions. We then choose the best."

Tiffany was first signed up by US record giant MCA for a staggering \$500,000 when she was just 14 years old. But it was Smokey Robinson's producer George Toplin who spotted her raw talent two years earlier.

He says: "She came into my office and sang country songs. She was amazing. Her tone, her phrasing, and her instincts for interpretation."

"All she needed was seasoning. It was hard to find appropriate lyrics for such a

young kid, and it was important that she be taken seriously."

But Tiffany is only one of the current crop of teenyboppers vying for chart success. Other young singers like fellow American Debbie Gibson and Australia's Kylie Minogue are also challenging to be top of the new popsters.

Tiffany's biggest problem has been combining her singing career with her schoolwork. She says: "I guess not many No. 1 artists have to battle with algebra, but I keep my two worlds of singing and school apart."

Her task has been made simpler thanks to understanding headmaster, who has assigned himself as Tiffany's unofficial protector.

"It has all come as a bit of a surprise really. I never expected to have a number one hit record at all. It's a great feeling, but I still find it hard to believe."

"I always knew I had the ability to succeed as a singer. I just thought it might not happen this soon."

"It's so easy to forget Tiffany is just 16. That is, until she starts talking about her hobbies. She says: "When I'm not around music business people I like to talk on the phone, watch cartoons, go to the mall and eat pizza with my friends."

## Advantage

"I think my age is an advantage. I have a lot of experience already, but I don't look at the world in quite the same way as someone who is 20 or 30 would. I have something to say to people my age and to adults."

She also insists that fame hasn't gone to her head. "I haven't changed personality wise," she adds. "I still hang out with the same friends at school, my family is still the same. It's an even balance when I'm performing, because then I have a lot of attention towards me."

"But when I get home all I worry about is my school and getting caught up with the things at home."

"I don't want to be another Madonna yet... I'm just happy to be me."

## Tiffany tops charts again

LONDON. (AP): American singer Tiffany held on to the number one spot on the British singles chart for the third week with I Think We're Alone Now, while When Will I Be Famous by Bros moved from fourth to second.

Taylor Dayne moved up from ninth to third place with Tell It To My Heart, but Sign Your Name by Terence Trent d'Arby fell from second to ninth.

Elton John's chartbusting — Candle In The Wind returned to the top 10 in remixed form, going from 14th to 6th. Also entering the top 10 this week was Kylie Minogue's I Should Be So Lucky, going from 20th to 8th place.

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Melody Maker magazine, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) I Think We're Alone Now — Tiffany (MCA).
2. (4) When Will I Be Famous — Bros (CBS).
3. (9) Tell It To My Heart — Taylor Dayne (Arista).
4. (6) Roka Da House — Beastmasters and Cookie Crew (Rhythm King).
5. (3) Heaven Is A Place On Earth — Belinda Carlisle (Virgin).
6. (14) Candle In The Wind — Elton John (Rocket).
7. (8) Shake Your Love — Debbie Gibson (Atlantic).
8. (20) I Should Be So Lucky — Kylie Minogue (PWL).
9. (2) Sign Your Name — Terence Trent d'Arby (CBS).
10. (10) O.L. Amour — Dollar (London).

New York (AP): Tiffany's hit Could've Been held on to its number one position on the single pop record charts in the United States for the second week in a row Wednesday.

Need You Tonight by Inxs was another disc that wouldn't let go of its last week's position — number two — on the Cash Box magazine chart, while Hungry Eyes by Eric Carmen jumped up three steps to grab third place.

The Pet Shop Boys and Dusty Springfield advanced four places with their hit What Have I Done To Deserve This and settled on fourth spot, as Seasons Change by Exposé remained unchanged at fifth place.

Roger's I Want To Be Your Man went up one notch from last week's number seven to sixth place, while Hazy Shade Of Winter by The Bangles moved down from third position to seventh.

There were three newcomers to the top ten pop list this week: Foreigner's Say You Will jumped up to eighth place from last week's 11th. Don't Shed A Tear by Paul Carrack (Chrysalis) moved up from 12th to 10th. Father Figure by George Michael (Columbia) moved up from 13th to 9th.

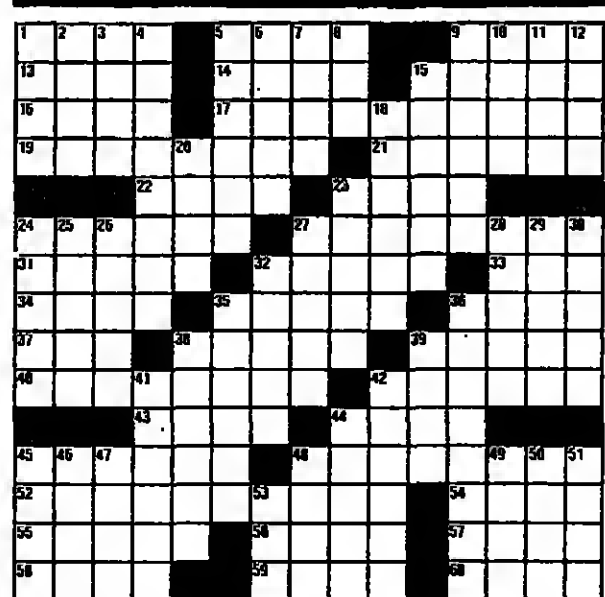
The ten top country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Tennessee Flat Top Box — Rosanne Cash (Columbia).
2. (7) Twinkle, Twinkle, Lucky Star — Merle Haggard (Epic).
3. (5) One Step Forward — The Desert Rose Band (MCA-Curb).
4. (3) Wheels — Restless Heart (RCA).
5. (10) I Won't Take Less Than Your Love — Tanya Tucker with Paul Davis and Paul Overstreet (Capitol).
6. (9) Oh What A Love Ninety Nine Dirt Band (Warner Brothers).
7. (8) Sure Thing — Foster and Lloyd (RCA).
8. (11) Face to Face — Alabama (RCA).
9. (12) Too Gone Too Long — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).
10. (6) Lyin' In His Arms — The Forester Sisters (Warner Brothers).



Pet Shop Boys: advanced four places

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Party
  - Off-shore
  - Light or right starter
  - This, in Ovidio
  - Charlie, the detective
  - "That Girl" Thomas
  - Coliseum area
  - Adjective for certain
  - Aggressive salesmanship
  - Declare without proof
  - Follow the hounds
  - Scraan
  - Take care
  - Intimate gatherings
  - Subside
  - Fairy godmother, e.g.
  - Large vessel
  - Stewart and Taylor
  - Cast a ballot
  - Garden equipment
  - Ship's course
  - Tower city of yore
  - Actress Black
  - Rhythmic contractions
  - Hard minerals
  - Upset
  - Toward the mouth
  - Hulled grain
  - Neglect of duty
  - Stubborn
  - Circle dance
  - Where llamas roam
  - TV's "The Show"
  - Particular
  - Jose's uncles
- DOWN
- Gaelic
  - Faded
  - One of the Little Women
  - Land mass
  - Old or young ending
  - Construction workers
  - One-seeded fruit
  - Biblical verb
  - James — Jones
  - Joiner of a sort
  - Author Norman
  - Part of a shield
  - Cassini
  - Point on a stem
  - Crumble into bits
  - Tempted
  - Of course!
  - Maan shelter
  - Exposas
  - Durable wood
  - Sets to work doggedly, with "into"
  - Refers to
  - Tower
  - Stand in an atelier
  - Brit. carbines
  - "Lonesome" George
  - Piece of luggage
  - Privation
  - Kiosk's cousins
  - Green parrots
  - Swaps
  - Goren's game
  - Augustus
  - Mountain pass, in India
  - Sari wearer
  - Church calendar
  - Repute
  - Greek letter
  - Oka city
  - 51 14 or 15
  - Sweet sixteen, e.g.
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
- BOAR POLAR TILES  
ABIE SWORE DORM  
LONG WINDO AQUA  
METER EAR UPS  
NANA SABBATH  
FIFTYONE WAAC  
ARI DODS BRIE  
TALK KONESHEAD OFF  
NINA SEEN UTE  
BOSS LACROSSE  
SHUTTLE REOS  
LAS ATE SPACE  
ANTI CHATTERBOX  
NOEL KEVIN ELIE  
GIRL SLEET YENS

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WHERE'S THE ENTRY?

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ A 5  
♥ Q 8 2  
♦ 8 7 6 5 3  
♣ 10 5

WEST  
♠ K 10 9 7 6 2  
♥ J 4  
♦ J 5  
♣ Q J 9

EAST  
♠ J 4  
♥ K 10 7 6 4 3  
♦ 4  
♣ A 7 6 2

SOUTH  
♠ Q 8 3  
♥ A 9  
♦ A K 10 2  
♣ K J 9 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 2 NT Pass  
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

Choosing the right line, more often than not, is a matter of simple logic. Looking at all four hands, there's little problem here. But let's see how you go about planning the play.

The auction is straightforward enough. North's five-card suit and intermediates just make his hand good enough to issue an invitation, and the quality of South's 17 points

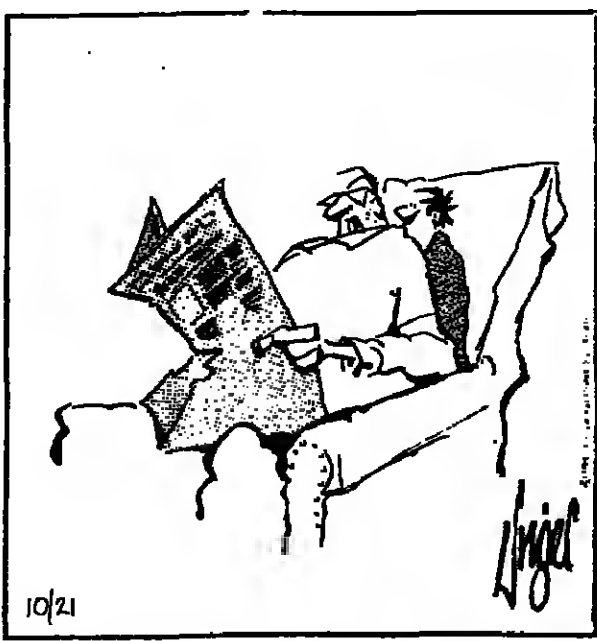
make acceptance more or less automatic.

West leads the ten of spades, you play low from dummy, East contributes the jack and you win the queen. Obviously, if diamonds are 2-2 you have no problem, so you cash the ace-king of diamonds only to find that, as expected, the suit breaks 3-1. What do you do now?

You can't answer that question until you discover who holds the long diamond. From the lead, you presume that West has the long spades, so you want to eliminate his entry right away. (If he holds both the long diamond and ace of clubs, you are not making this contract.)

If it's East who has shown out on the diamonds, you have to hope that he has the ace of clubs and only two spades, so you concede a diamond trick to West. On the actual lie of the cards, you will now have time to set up the clubs for your contract.

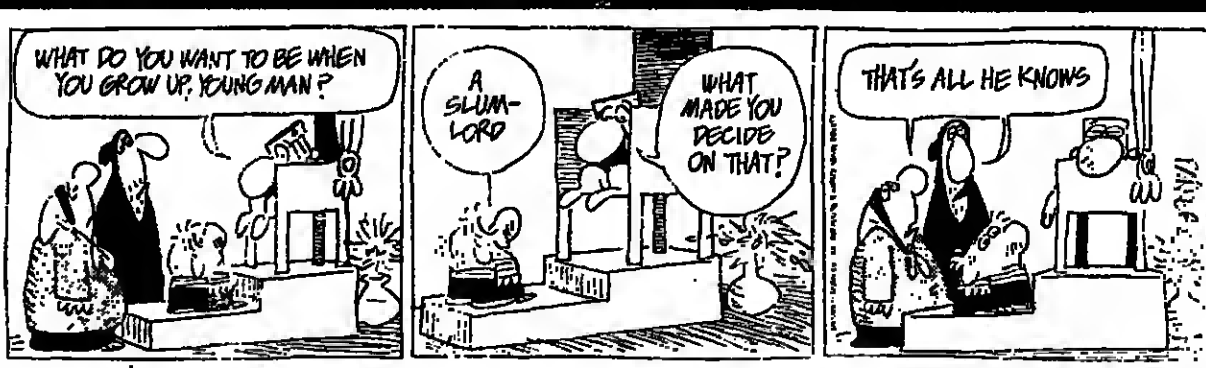
If West didn't follow to the second diamond, you must now switch from diamonds and force out the ace of clubs. After winning the presumed spade continuation, you concede a diamond to East and hope he is out of spades. Since he started with a doubleton, you are home.



"Go and watch some lunatic behavior on TV. You're not old enough for this stuff."

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Bram Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to get a lot done today. Only you must not spend too much time window-shopping. Do not allow others to tell you what to do, but do listen to advice. Be responsive.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

The situation is a little involved and you must take extra care. Do not indulge in nibbles and "delicacies." You should try to use a little more commonsense. Be optimistic.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Keep your wits very much about you. If you act too fast you may have to do everything again. Concentrate on essentials and make sure you know what they are. Be moderate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not try to do too many things all at once. You should be prepared to adapt to the circumstances. You will tend to go off in the wrong direction, so look out. Be more approachable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should not get stuck in a rut. An old friend will appreciate a ring from you. Ask yourself whether you are not getting into bad habits. Be hospitable.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You should try to put gloomy thoughts to one side. The Moon's influence will help you to express yourself more clearly. You should appreciate that you will not get your way in all things.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Make sure you do not lose the courage of your convictions. You should not hesitate to make few changes, but not for their own sake. Be objective.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You should beware of saying just what you think, a little more tact is indicated. Do not spend more money than you know you can afford. You will tend to mistake what appears to be for what is.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You should try to put gloomy thoughts to one side. The Moon's influence will help you to express yourself more clearly. You should appreciate that you will not get your way in all things.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Venus's influence will help you to take things in your stride. You should not take everything quite so seriously. Make sure you do not eat or drink more than you know should. Be tactful.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be able to do something to further your own interests. It will do you good to spend a little while on your own. Now is the time to resolve a problem that has been bothering you. Be considerate.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should not expect others to be at your bid and call. The Moon's influence will help you to dispel some gloom. You should try not to do anything that would disappoint your partner. Be more polite.



## Shedding Israeli myths

By Roger Owen

NOWHERE is the war of words between supporters of Israel and of the Palestinians, conducted with greater ferocity than in North America. In *Blaming the Victims*, Edward Said and Christopher Hitchens present what is in effect a collection of communiques concerning some of its more recent battles and shifts in tactics. The most useful of these are two pieces, by Said himself and Norman Finkelstein, on the rapturous American reception of Joan Peters's now notorious work of demographic disinformation.

From *Time* Immemorial, and two others, by Said again and Noam Chomsky, on the campaign to portray Arabs as the essential terrorists.

The remainder of the contributions refer to more marginal aspects of the war of words or are presented as examples of the way Palestinian scholars have now taken up the long neglected task of writing their own history.

The one exception to this is Edward Said's third contribution, a reprint of the review he wrote of Michael Walzer's *Exodus and Revolution* which he sees as providing a sophisticated theoretical justification for the progressive character of the whole Zionist project.

The problem for such collections is that, while they provide comfort to the committed, they make much less of an impact on a more general audience. For one thing, as in this case, they presuppose a great deal of background information both as to the debates and mythifications which it has engendered.

A good example of this is the discussion of Joan Peters's book, which can only properly be understood in terms of at least 80 years of Zionist attempts to portray Palestine as under-populated and its few inhabitants as such a mish-mash of different tribes and types as to defy any attempt to call them a people.

Just as important, they rarely make much of an effort to place the whole debate in its international, political and institutional context, relying as here, on a prior knowledge of such important works as Said's own *Orientalism* or Paul Finkelstein's analysis of the American Zionist lobby, *They Dared to Speak Out*.

But as Said indicates in his own, all too brief, introduction, the terms of the verbal confrontation are constantly changing under the influence of major Middle Eastern events, such as the 1967 war or the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, as well as of its own internal dynamic. It would be good to have more of a guide to all this.

It would also be good to have a form of presentation which steps aside from the immediacy of the war of words and allows other questions to intrude.

Are the supporters of the Palestinians correct in their assumption that the "truth" about Jewish or Israeli activities, for example the extent of their responsibility for the expulsions of 1948, will make any difference to world opinion when finally revealed?

*Blaming the Victims: Spurious Scholarship and the Palestinian Question*, edited by Edward Said and Christopher Hitchens (Verso, £8.95; cloth £24.95).

Fresh light on the 'might-have-been-great' actor

## A new episode in the Burton soap opera

By D. A. M. Jones

WHEN Richard Burton died in 1984, some readers were coldly relieved. No more "Dick 'n' Liz" stories in the papers: the soap was over.

We were wrong. His widow, Sally, will shortly publish a novel (not about Burton, the publishers assure me, but about two women); his most famous ex-wife, Elizabeth Taylor, is publishing a book on getting fat and getting thin again. His brother, Graham Jenkins, begins his own Burton book with the funeral — and an account of ill-feeling between the wives. This soap will run and run.

Burton is remembered less for his performances than for his publicity. It was agreed that Dick and Liz were both very beautiful and romantic; many wanted Dick to be a Great Actor. He had changed his Welsh-sounding name, Richard Jenkins, when he was adopted, and smartened up, by Philip Burton: a mistake, perhaps, for Welshness became an important part of his publicity. "This man," says Elizabeth Taylor in her introduction to Richard Burton, My Brother, "was the son and soul of Wales (which is a state of being, not just a nationality)."

Oxford was part of his publicity, though he did not complete a course; he took up acting and had some genuine success with Shakespeare, his physical presence being suitable. "The face of a boxing poet," said Emyln Williams. (Like Byron? Graves? Vernon



Elizabeth Taylor (centre) with members of Richard Burton's family. Graham Jenkins, the author of the book, is on the extreme right.

Scannell? His voice was splendid, the sort of British voice that Americans admire — to talk the songs in their musicals (like Rex Harrison and Richard Harris). In Hollywood he entered the deepest pit of Publicity and was swallowed up. When he had too much to drink, he became a Hellraiser, when he took up with a girl, it was a romance — one of those Publicity Romanesque nobody believes in.

Graham Jenkins's book is written in Publicity style, unintentionally old-fashioned and pompous. "Smarting at the cheap jibes, I voiced my resentment" — nobody talks like that, unless they're trying to be funny. Mr Jenkins may not be responsible for all the clichés, since he has written his book with another publicist, Barry Turner.



Richard Burton (left) with his last wife Sally.

Mr Jenkins himself has been responsible for much Publicity. When Burton made his last marriage, Jenkins, "not realising the information was in any way confidential," passed on the story to colleagues at the BBC. "Why couldn't you have kept quiet for a few hours?" shouted Burton down the

phone. "I wanted a chance to tell Elizabeth."

"There were occasions," Mr Jenkins admits, "when an over-trusting nature led me into bad company." He lunched with a journalist and talked about Burton — to find his story a centrepiece in the *News of the World*. Angry Burton phoned Jenkins to ask how much he'd got for this. Only £200? "What I can't forgive is selling me off so cheaply," shouted Burton.

Towards his end, Burton appeared as the might-have-been Great Actor, trying to play Great Men like Trotsky and Wagner: he looked a noble ruin. We switched on the Wagner movie to see the supporting cast. He was also offered in parts which reflected his "private life," as constructed by his Publicity. He appeared in *Private Lives* with Elizabeth Taylor. Mr Jenkins comments: "It was like saying to the public, 'you've read the story in the gossip columns, now see it live on stage.'"

There seems to be some genuine bitterness in this petty and fatuous book. It is suggested that Burton was responsible, for a fatal accident to Ivor Jenkins, another brother, it is alleged that he wantonly and unjustly sacked two loyal members of his staff. Jenkins is keen to tell us that he was handsome Burton's lookalike and that he was the best boy singer for miles — until Burton upstaged him.

RICHARD BURTON, MY BROTHER by Graham Jenkins, with Barry Turner, Michael Joseph, 248pp, £12.95.



Welsh poet Dylan Thomas: cult figure

## Dylan remembered

By John Moynihan

THIS year, 35 years after his death in New York on November 4, 1953, the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas is set once again to become a cult figure as his many admirers, prepare to revive the memory of this downward slide during Coronation year.

It will be in America as well as Wales, especially in New York City, that the poet's destructive, boozy journey will be remembered. Thomas's huge transatlantic fan club of the time, bolstered by legions of adoring women, much to the distaste of his jealous wife Caitlin — "They conducted their courting with the ferocity of caged Amazons" — are now well into middle age, but the poet also became a cult figure with the 1960s Flower Children.

"Dylan was very widely read by those groups," says John Ashberry, the award-winning New York poet. "That's why there are so many young men around now called Dylan. The hippies either called their babies after Thomas, or Bob Dylan." Recently, I took a cab downtown to the White Horse Tavern on the corner of West 11th Street and Hudson Street in Greenwich Village, the bar where Thomas downed "18 straight whiskeys," which put him into hospital and thence into a coffin which a distraught Caitlin escorted back on the SS United States for burial in Wales.

Thomas was ill in 1953, worried by his faltering marriage and lack of money. It only needed a top-up for the poison to do its worst. The poet was a changed man when he arrived on his last lecture tour in the US, shocking his mistress with his pallid appearance. But the invalid still had a whale of a time, pushing his constitution to the limit from Costello's on Third Avenue down to the White Horse.

The White Horse still remembers the poet with affection — and they will raise a glass or two to his memory this year. The bar has changed considerably since those rough old days when Thomas used to drop in and drink into the early hours with a hand of hard-bitten West Side dockers.

His long days into night are recalled by a framed photograph of the chubby Welshman seated on his favourite bar stool. Posters giving notice of various readings by the poet, including his delightful *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, adorn the walls in a special room devoted to his memory.

Thomas probably wouldn't use the bar now, preferring the rougher atmosphere of the Lower East Side, where, in an atmosphere of drug-pushing and the threat of AIDS, a stranger moves with caution. The

White Horse is far more prim now, the young staff respecting the name of Thomas as a poet who was dead long before they were born.

Seated on the poet's stool at pictures of lavish Christmas fare in the *New York Times* Magazine. She could have been Miss Price, a character in Thomas's classic play *Under Milk Wood* — "natty as a jenny-wren."

Greenwich Village has changed since Thomas and a vast army of hangers-on and would-be lovers used to hell-raise down Hudson Street in search of a last nightcap. The randy poet would have gleefully recorded some of the items available in local shops: Dracula porno videos; easy-fit condoms, undies for two, and the Adult Party Toy Box.

His memory will be recalled in an expansive manner in Wales this year when a £200,000 EMI recording of *Under Milk Wood* is released, the first version since an all-star Welsh cast headed by Richard Burton appeared in the original broadcast of the play by BBC on January 25, 1954. Thomas had completed the work just before his death. The cast will include such notable showbiz performers as Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey and Anthony Hopkins.

The cost of the production would have prompted an ironic chuckle from the poet, who was often hard-up. Exactly 35 years ago this Christmas, Stephen Spender was trying without much success to raise some money for Thomas through a special fund as the author struggled with his best-known play at his beachhouse at the village of Laugharne on the west of Wales. Most of his friends felt Thomas didn't need the money because he was earning more than they were.

Coincidence It was a mere coincidence that a few days after visiting Greenwich Village, I found myself in the Queen's Elm pub in London's Fulham Road, where Thomas used to look in occasionally to get a quick loan between his journeys to America.

An unsteady, shadowy figure, remembered as the brother-in-law of my godmother, the writer Nicolette Devas, who died last year, Dylan could be a considerable bore when in the full flush of his cups. But in a sober mood before he left on that last reading tour of America he told my mother that he had to continue these visits because he needed the cash to pay his children's school fees. There was no mention of his desire to get away from Caitlin and join up with his mistress over there. (Liz in later years became publicity officer for the Columbia Intertribal Fish Commission in Portland, Oregon.)

## Preoccupation of the powerful Simulating World War III

By Burke Wilkinson

WAR GAMES, The Secret World of the Creators, Players, and Policy Makers. Releasing World War III Today, by Thomas B. Allen, McGraw-Hill 402 pp, \$19.95.

Many segments of America play war games, as this absorbing, crucially important book reveals. Army manoeuvres are often scenarios of what might come to pass. The Navy, an inveterate games player, simulates combat situations across thousands of sea miles. The Air Force rehearses its responses to surprise attack and even — if only in theory — its first-strike, preemptive capabilities. Think tanks and universities stage endless strategic seminars.

And in the depths of the Pentagon high-ranking officials (and their middle-grade stand-ins) play friend-and-foe with zeal, sometimes with zealotry. A 1982 Department of Defense catalog listed "363 war games, simulations, exercises and models, some so complex they had taken seven years to develop," author Thomas Allen informs us. Add arcade-style video games, "often dazzling conjurers of reality," and war gaming spills over into the public domain.

But mostly, the process is highly classified. It is to the author's extreme credit that he lifts a corner of the curtain on activities that so deeply concern your survival and mine.

The history of war gaming began in the mists of history. It made its American debut at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., which did pioneer work starting in 1889.

With the nuclear age came new and awesome problems in

decision-making, and the Bay of Pigs disaster added a sharp urgency to the need for better planning.

To catch the flavour of the book, two full-dress exercises might well stand for the many brought to light by the author's diligent research: One of these war games bore the jaunty code name of Nifty Nugget; the other was labeled Ivy League.

The scenario for Nifty Nugget (1978) involved the mobilisation of 400,000 men and 350,000 tons of supplies across the Atlantic in response to a surprise invasion of Europe by Warsaw Pact forces. The drill lasted 30 days and turned into a "horror story" of unforeseen pitfalls — panicked tourists, clogged roads, railway lines long out of use, and sabotaged port facilities. Out of it came sobering lessons, including the way some role players collapse under even simulated tension.

Ivy League took place in 1982, with former Secretary of State William P. Rogers playing the parts of the president, and various former Cabinet members in supporting roles. The action started with an attack on South Korea by the North Koreans. It spread to the Atlantic when the destroyer Spruance was sunk with all hands by a nuclear detonation. There then ensued a poison gas onslaught by Soviet forces across the German plain. The climax of the fictional five-day drama was a Soviet missile strike on Washington, killing the president. The vice-president (former CIA Director Richard Helms) took over from his airborne command post. Helms ordered a massive nuclear barrage on major Russian military installations, and the game ended in the total devastation of the enemy.

Among the beneficial side effects of Ivy League was one of deterrence: It may have made indelibly clear to the Soviets that an attempt to paralyse the United States by nuclear attack could backfire in spectacular fashion. From these and many other case histories, Allen, who is anything but dazed by his subject, has accurately aware of some of the built-in dangers, makes the case with an even hand for an against this preoccupation of the powerful.

Pro. It exposes faulty planning and inadequate weapons. It trains military and civilian officials to stand up under stress. It flags crises before they happen, and gives fair warning to possible enemies of the seriousness of our intent to defend ourselves.

Con. The atmosphere in which it takes place can be rarefied and unreal, lacking the blood and sweat of a contract or promoting a special weapon. The frontiers of reality and unreality are crossed so often that the lines of demarcation become blurred. It is so time-consuming that many high-ranking participants send lower-grade staff members in their places.

To his credit the author is ever mindful that war is the art of the unexpected. In this regard he quotes Clausewitz to good effect: "Everything in war is very simple, but the simplest thing is difficult." The difficulties accumulate and end by producing a kind of friction that is inconceivable unless one has experienced war... This tremendous friction brings effects that cannot be measured, just because they are largely due to chance."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

decision-making, and the Bay of Pigs disaster added a sharp urgency to the need for better planning.

To catch the flavour of the book, two full-dress exercises might well stand for the many brought to light by the author's diligent research: One of these war games bore the jaunty code name of Nifty Nugget; the other was labeled Ivy League.

The scenario for Nifty Nugget (1978) involved the mobilisation of 400,000 men and 350,000 tons of supplies across the Atlantic in response to a surprise invasion of Europe by Warsaw Pact forces. The drill lasted 30 days and turned into a "horror story" of unforeseen pitfalls — panicked tourists, clogged roads, railway lines long out of use, and sabotaged port facilities. Out of it came sobering lessons, including the way some role players collapse under even simulated tension.

Ivy League took place in 1982, with former Secretary of State William P. Rogers playing the parts of the president, and various former Cabinet members in supporting roles. The action started with an attack on South Korea by the North Koreans. It spread to the Atlantic when the destroyer Spruance was sunk with all hands by a nuclear detonation. There then ensued a poison gas onslaught by Soviet forces across the German plain. The climax of the fictional five-day drama was a Soviet missile strike on Washington, killing the president. The vice-president (former CIA Director Richard Helms) took over from his airborne command post. Helms ordered a massive nuclear barrage on major Russian military installations, and the game ended in the total devastation of the enemy.

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## Truth about Reagan

By Richard Heller

FOR viewers of TV's Spitting Image, President Reagan is a blundering, brainless puppet who needs executive assistance to find his shoelaces — let alone tie them.

The image is vivid, sometimes hilarious. But it trades on persistent English snobbery about American politics, which, in turn, has its roots in envy.

As England discovers fewer and fewer legitimate reasons to feel superior to the US, it eases its national psyche to pretend that American political leaders are invariably crooks or dolts — and that its people must be morose or manipulated to vote for any of them.

Every President since the Eastern Angliophile Kennedy has been a victim of this process. But, none has taken so much stick as Ronald Reagan.

Aw, shucks! What's a nice guy like him done to deserve it? It is very late in Reagan's presidency to attempt to understand him rather than abuse him, but the effort is still essential. For in his remaining year he will make (or evade) decisions, especially on the economy and arms control, which are vital for the future of the world.

Professor Garry Wills, a distinguished American historian, has tried to unlock the real Ronald Reagan in *Reagan's America*.

It is not a conventional biography nor a polemic (although he clearly does not admire Reagan). Instead, this book tries to analyse the influences on Reagan's character and decisions.

Perhaps, Professor Wills tries too hard, for his book is often heavy going — prolix, discursive and with frequent displays of pointless erudition. But it deserves reading, for it is full of insight which overturns perceived ideas.

Reagan is obsessed with asserting American power all over the world. Wrong, says Professor Wills. He is the first American president for years not to be interested in foreign policy. He



President Reagan as he is portrayed, in 'Spitting Image' expects others to 'handle that stuff' and does not like to be 'bothered' with it.

Reagan is obsessed with a military build-up. Wrong again. He is bored by weapons and desperately ignorant about them. He once expressed the view that submarine-based missiles could be recalled after launching. His only real interest in his SDI (Star Wars) project — because he genuinely believes it will make nuclear weapons obsolete.

Reagan is hopeless on facts and figures. Not necessarily so. He can gear himself to memorise and deliver, complex material. He often does not choose to because he is bored by a subject or because goshdarn-it ignorance is part of his deliberate image as an amateur in politics — the nice, ordinary guy doing his best.

But Professor Wills shows that some of the most worrying ideas about Reagan are true. Reagan does rest frequently, and many of his "working" hours are devoted to ceremonial.

Reagan does delegate an immense amount of work. He expects his subordinates to keep problems away from him until they are solved.

Reagan is much influenced by his wife Nancy. She has swayed staff appointments and the trust he places in his staff. More important, she has cranked up his optimism and belief in himself.

Professor Wills argues persuasively that Reagan does have trouble distinguishing fantasy from reality and will not let "facts" interfere with a script which he believes in.

Above all, he really does like to be liked. Despite often combative rhetoric, he hates being seen as responsible for decisions which create conflict or pain — and will do so only if the victims are obviously foreign and obviously 'bad guys'.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## ANXIETY, STRESS, CAN CAUSE BLADDER PROBLEMS

QUESTION: I have a real bladder problem. My doctor says it's really in my head. Is there such a thing?

ANSWER: Yes indeed. And there's no question that even imaginary bladder problems (as you well know!) have real symptoms. In your case, I assume your doctor already has tested you to make sure bladder discomfort is not caused by some disease, infection or structural defect such as a fallen uterus or a blockage in the urinary tracts. These ruled out, it is natural to suspect a not-so-obvious cause.

For instance, studies have shown that most people who have constant, unexplained bladder problems generally have other problems in their lives too. They may be under a lot of stress at work or experiencing troubles in their marriage. Sudden changes in their way of life (i.e. death in the family, divorce, unexpected pregnancy) can bring on anxiety, a feeling of being "overloaded," that can cause a whole array of urinary tract symptoms. Some patients complain they void too often or not enough, some say they have difficulty or pain when they urinate.

It's important to remember that just because a problem has no physical basis it doesn't mean you're "crazy." It's just the body's way of reacting to the stresses of everyday life. For example, some people get "knots" in their stomach, others get headaches when they don't know how to cope with a situation.

The best form of treatment is to go to a counselor or doctor trained to help you identify and solve the underlying cause of your symptoms. The expert may prescribe a mild tranquiliser to relieve anxiety, or ask you to record your urinary habits during the course of therapy so you can see your condition improving.

Let me add one other important point. I am answering your question assuming that your physician's diagnosis is correct, that all other possible causes for your problem have been considered. I know of cases where the search was not intense enough to discover a difficult diagnosis. That, of course, is another question, requiring another answer.

QUESTION: I've heard of the Epstein-Barr virus causing fatigue and aches. Can it also cause a persistent headache?

ANSWER: You pose a very interesting question which leads to a surprising answer.

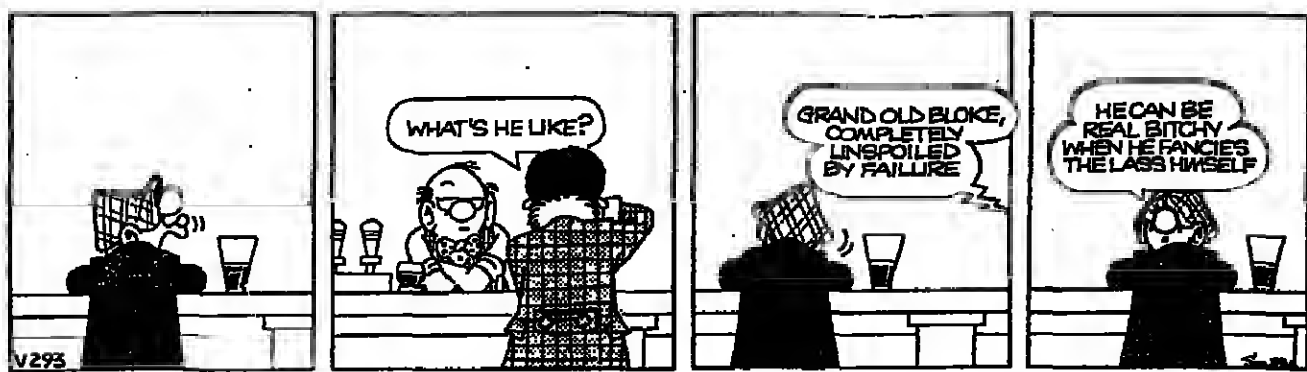
A recent study conducted by the University of Alberta in Canada reports a definite link between Epstein-Barr virus (an infectious disease that is thought to cause glandular fever) and persistent headaches in persons not usually known to have headache problems. In 84 per cent of the patients tested there was evidence of active EBV infection.

Researchers studied 32 headache sufferers 15 or older whose symptoms had continued for at least one month. Twenty-six of the patients had pain on both sides of the head and six had unilateral or one-sided discomfort. Most described their pain as steady. Blood tests and throat cultures confirmed the presence of active EBV infection. This led researchers to the conclusion that the virus was brought about by a lowering of the body's defenses due to the stress of frequent headaches. So, in effect, EBV is caused by headaches, not the other way around. Or, at least, that is the interpretation of this particular research group.

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## ANDY CAPP

By Smith





## FASHION

British designer Zandra Rhodes storms bastion of tradition — Indian fashion

## Rape of the traditional, timeless sari

She designs for the likes of Shirley Bassey and Princess Anne. In the world of designer fashion Zandra Rhodes is a name to reckon with. The highly individualistic British designer has now turned her gaze on Indian fashion and promises to revolutionise it.

By Kavita Shanmugam

ZANDRA Rhodes is not just an internationally acclaimed fashion designer. She is a fashion designer who has dared to storm that bastion of tradition — Indian fashion. And to pluck from within it a garment that has for centuries been a symbol of timeless grace and elegance and wrought upon it such drastic changes as to leave the traditionalists gasping in shock and indignation at such heresy.

But for Zandra Rhodes nothing is sacrosanct. Not even the sari. That is perhaps how she has survived at the top of a cut-throat, competitive business which may be all frills and furbellows on the surface but which rests on a bedrock of hard cash.

## Parade

The designer sari which the pink-haired queen of fashion launched with much fanfare recently at a gathering in Bombay, that every established or aspiring socialite fought to be present at, hore the true Rhodes stamp. It was glitzy, ritzy and bold. A pink Kancheepuram sari studded with flashing gold sequins along its traditional border — enough to make the denizens of the famous temple town die a thousand deaths — feathers and tassels trailing from sari ends, peak-a-booo bores which doubled as cowls. And accessories more suited to the hush world of pink rock than the sedate ambience of the Venkateswara and the Kancheepuram — psychedelic earrings and bindis, flashy brooches, and gold bows, black gossamer-like veils and a variety of startling headgear.

Watching the glamorous models parade the ramp in one incredible adaptation after another, it was obvious that for better or worse, Rhodes was

out to break the mould into which the sari had congealed for generations. And to do so as boldly as possible. Cholis that went off the shoulder, or cap-sleeved or strapless and — ye gods! — even sprouted padded shoulders! Most devastating of all was the departure from the traditional ways of draping the chiffon and sequin creations. Wrapping it around a Victorian bustle was the most audacious of innovations.

The traditional six-yard sari had been revolutionised as never before. After years of viewing this garment as conventional, respectable, dignified — even austere — it was difficult at first to absorb Zandra Rhodes' designer sari.

But the outraged outburst against Zandra's rape of the sari seems not to have taken into account the fact that Indians like Ravi Chawla of Ravissant, Satya Paul of Paul Salon, Bina Ramani of Once Upon a Time have been selling flamboyant designer saris for years now. It was the usual story: It always takes a foreigner to make us sit up and take notice.

All Zandra Rhodes is doing is supplementing her audacious designs with all the gorgeous fabrics and excellent craftsmanship that are easily available here. If there should be any patriotic spoutings, they should be directed against foreign fashion designers making use of poorly paid Indian craftsmen for the phenomenally priced creations sold abroad.

It was an Indian export company, Tambour Exporters, of which Rhodes is joint company director, which sweated over these fancy creations for a year. The inimitable Pierre Cardin had been brought to India by the Taj group of hotels some time ago. Not to be outdone, the rival Oberoi topped Zandra Rhodes. "We wanted



Feathers, tassels and padded shoulders were some of Ms Rhodes' more audacious adaptations, which left traditionalists gasping.

someone internationally renowned whom people here could identify with. And keeping in line with our image projection, which is promoting high quality, sophisticated Indian culture, we decided to have Zandra Rhodes down. We heard of her because of her participation in the Festival of India in Britain and now in Japan," says Ajay Bakaya, manager, Oberoi Towers, Bombay.

Zandra Rhodes first came to India in 1982 and was totally entranced. She travelled around and then went back to London and did a few designs inspired by her Indian visit. Rajiv Sethi, who designed the Festival of India in Britain, urged her to display her creations as part of the festival. And that's how her affair with India began: Here was the fabric and

the craftsmen for her work. "The sari is the most feminine way of tying cloth that has been in existence for several thousand years. I cannot perfect it but I can add some personalised Rhodes imagery to it," enthuses Rhodes.

## Display

The Rhodes sari line is to go on display at the Festival of India in Japan this year. Hence, none of her creations are to be sold prior to that. Later, they are all slated for export to the UK and the US. According to her, there is a large market for saris in London. And she could well turn the sartorial gaze of the West towards the East.

Zandra Rhodes' biographical data distributed to the press reads like some royal scroll of honour — "HRH the Duchess of Kent, attended the opening of the Houses of

Parliament in Zandra's crinoline"; "A sample of her works are a part of the permanent collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York"; "Princess Anne's official engagement dress was designed by Zandra Rhodes."

Apart from these distinguished citations, we are told that the likes of Jackie Onassis, Gloria Vanderbilt, Lauren Bacall are seen in her designs. Once when she introduced a revolutionary range of jersey dresses, which she called 'conceptual chic', the Western media termed it as punk.

"That's how the public sees me. Bizarre. Punkish. But when I create, I develop something that's inside my personality. When I choose to wear my hair pink, that is me. I can make things ordinary but at the end of the day I am not ordinary."

"My designs have a quality that is quite unlike anyone else. I don't know what it is. People tell me that they feel feminine and sexy in my outfits. Maybe it's the way I draw my line differently, the colours I put together, the motifs I use. When they are combined, people say that's a Zandra Rhodes," says this fashion designer, who the media in Britain call 'eccentric'.

Zandra Rhodes started off as a textile designer, printing and designing fabrics for new pop culture designers. But she was unhappy with their handling of her fabric, so, in 1969, "I began designing. The very first thing that I designed was a chiffon caftan. I remember that it was so exciting to be able to make things happen around the body," she says.

## Traveller

Rhodes is an avid traveller, as this provides her with inspiration for her designs. "When I came back from Jaipur I did a whole lot of designs with peacock feathers. How I would love to travel incognito across this country."

"I don't know what's wrong with me. Every time I adore being somewhere I begin to think of projects to do. I end up socialising and giving interviews. I would love to have lots of free time, to be like water and to receive all these new impressions around me," she sighs.



Zandra Rhodes: collage of British fashion in one of her creations which was launched in Bombay recently with much fanfare.

## Did you know?

- In colour therapy, red is used as a stimulant. But it can make inflammatory conditions or emotional disturbances worse.
- An American study found that putting people in a red room increased their blood pressure, heart-rate, breathing and their brainwave activity.
- In Russia, it was found that factory workers reacted faster when they were in a red

environment — but their work was less efficient.

- You can cheer yourself up by surrounding yourself with yellow colours. Try it. It works.
- People will spend less time talking in phone booths which are painted yellow.
- Small children who are tur-

ned loose in a room full of toys will choose yellow ones more often than any other colour.

- Green can soothe and relieve stress. It restores balance and can make you feel calmer if you're upset.
- Blue can act as an antiseptic or an antidote for fevers and inflammations.
- A study of hyperactive children (of whom some were blind) found that when their classrooms were painted blue, all the children, both blind and sighted, became measurably calmer.
- Indigo and violet are said to be astringent and cooling. They are used to calm down an agitated or over-excited person, soothe nerves and relieve pain.

## Story behind a fashion revolution

## 50 years of nylon stockings

By Robert Matthews

FIFTY years ago, Du Pont announced the discovery of nylon, the protein-like chemical that has had a profound impact on 20th century life.

Although the material may have been around for a long time, there are several home truths to be gleaned from the story of its development about how "blue skies" research can pay off mightily.

In 1928, Du Pont put Wallace Carothers, a young chemistry teacher fresh from Harvard, in charge of a team investigating polymer chemistry, the science of long chains of molecules.

The aim of the research was simply to investigate how and why some small molecules link up with one another to become long strings, or polymers. Mr Carothers was not pressured by the company to come up with a commercial product; indeed, he became sceptical that the company would continue to pour money into such basic research.

## Compound

However, the company continued to pay up, in all \$27 million over 11 years, even through the Depression, arguing that something was bound to come out of it one day. The contrast with so many of today's accountant-dominated research and development efforts is striking.

Du Pont was well repaid for having the confidence to give its scientists relative carte blanche. Neoprene, a rubbery compound used in building, was



The public's first view of nylon stockings at New York's World Fair in 1938.

followed by nylon, launched in 1938 at a national women's conference on industrial research.

The audience clapped loudly at the announcement that nylon could be used to make run-resistant stockings, but none of the national newspapers made much of it. Even the company's local newspaper relegated the story to page 11, and on Wall Street Du Pont stock fell by a point and a half.

Potential users of the material were far more enthusiastic, not hesitating to investigate what nylon could do for

their business. Shortly after the 1938 World Fair in New York, near-riots broke out when nylon stockings reached the shops.

Du Pont is still reaping the benefit: "What we call the 'nylon enterprise,' a broad array of businesses associated with nylon remains one of Du Pont's most important businesses. Nylon and its extended family of related products can be found in thousands of applications," says Richard Heckert, chairman of Du Pont.

Another product of what must seem to many industrial

scientists today as an age of enlightenment is Teflon, a further Du Pont development celebrating its fiftieth anniversary.

Discovered by accident by one of the company's scientists, who was investigating refrigeration gases, Teflon took 20 years of study before Du Pont were able to mass-produce products exploiting its non-stick properties.

Many research directors would doubt that they could keep their accountants away from a research project for that amount of time today.

## Shoemaker with all the world at his feet

Lauded as the 20th century's greatest shoe designer, Roger Vivier, 85, is honoured with an exhibition at Paris' Museum of Fashion Arts.

By Barbara Bright

PARIS: French shoemaker Roger Vivier has the world at his feet.

Lauded as the 20th century's greatest shoe designer by fashion experts and museum curators in Europe and the United States, his elegant pumps, sandals and boots are drawing crowds to an exhibition at Paris' Museum of Fashion Arts.

Shoes are displayed in glass cases like expensive jewels.

There are fanciful feather slippers, sophisticated pumps splashed with pearls and sequins, delicate lace boots, surrealistic sandals with bird-beaks at mid-calf, embroidered shoes and footwear of metal mesh.

Vivier, 85, has shod queens and movie stars, as well as the world's richest and most beautiful women.

Britain's Queen Elizabeth wore Vivier shoes for her coronation in 1953.

"she was the first to be crowned with something from me on her feet," he said in a recent interview, "sandals in gold and rubies raised on a slight platform."

Farah Diba wore shoes of his design when she became Empress of Iran, and Vivier cobbled a special pair for Princess Sophia of Greece to wear at her wedding to King Juan Carlos of Spain.

French actress Brigitte Bardot became a Vivier fan in the 1960s and Elizabeth Taylor is now a regular customer at his New York boutique on classy Upper Madison Avenue.

Vivier shoes have provided the perfect note for clothes from some of the world's greatest designers — Christian Dior, Saint Laurent, Christobal Balenciaga, Pierre Balmain, Guy Laroche, Emanuel Ungaro and Philippe Venet.

Vivier became famous for

unusual shapes — needle, ball and comma heels, toes that are narrow and pointed, others that turn up like a gondola, trompe-l'oeil shoes as a pump in front and a boot from the back.

He introduced the high, thin-tipped stiletto heel just after World War Two when shoe heels could be made of unbreakable metal instead of wood.

These were banned by some public buildings.

Vivier said this gave him trouble "because people said it was ruining their carpets, but I wasn't thinking about carpets when I did it. I was thinking of designing something new."

Then came the "shock" heel, with the point of the heel swept in under the foot so that the wearer look as if she is about to topple over backwards.

## Equilibrium

Shape or size of the heel is almost limitless so long as equilibrium is maintained, said Vivier, still hale and handsome as a movie idol.

He has done bobbins, balls, pyramids, Louis XIV, 'cancan' heels. "What's important is not the size of the heel but that the balance is correct," he explained.

Vivier's current favourite beel shape is the 'comma', which looks just like its name. He first introduced the shape 30 years ago for his made-to-measure customers, and now it accounts for half the business turnover at his ready-to-wear boutique in New York, where most models cost about \$250.

"It's a novelty, but I think it will endure for a century," he smiled.

Vivier said he has used virtually every possible material and colour for his shoes. One of his most popular designs was the simple black pump with a metal buckle over the toes made for Yves Saint Laurent in 1963.



Roger Vivier: peerless French shoemaker

"One hundred and twenty thousand pairs were sold in one year," he said. "It's amazing, that shoe went around the world because it was a shoe that could wear in the morning and also in the evening with a dressy dress."

The Paris-born designer studied fine arts and originally intended to be a sculptor. But some shoe sketches he made for friends of his parents were so successful he decided to enter the business.

In 1937 he opened a shop in Paris, and was soon selling to major manufacturers such as Delman and Miller in the United States, Salamander in Germany and Bally in Switzerland.

It was then that Vivier first introduced platform soled shoes.

## Sketch

When he sent a sketch for platforms to the big American manufacturer Delman in 1937, he got back a curt note: "Are you crazy Roger?"

But French designer Elsa Schiaparelli showed the platform shoes in her boutique.

where they caught the eye of Marlene Dietrich.

Style-setter Dietrich's appearances in platform shoes soon had all pre-war women teetering several centimetres (inches) above terra firma.

For the moment, Vivier shoes are sold only in the United States and Japan, but the designer said he is setting up world-wide distribution and plans to open a new shop in Paris.

He sold ready to wear shoes in Paris until just over two years ago, then decided to concentrate on sales in the United States.

"I needed the Paris ambience. It's always been Paris that determined my choices... even if my inspiration took a form that was African, Spanish, geometric, baroque or romantic."

Vintage Vivier shoes are part of collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Bata Museum in Toronto and the Bally museum in Switzerland.

دبي 13 فبراير 1988



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Oapec advocates closer inter-Arab trade ties

TRADE and exchange of petroleum products and gas in an important basis for cooperation between oil-exporting and oil-importing countries.

An editorial in the February issue of the "Bulletin," a publication of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Oapec), recalls that such cooperation was advocated by the Oapec ministerial council when it finalised guidelines for the organisation's 1987-91 activities.

**Cooperation**

This would necessitate closer cooperation between Oapec countries and other Arab nations through the support of pan-Arab institutions such as the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation so that they can attract investments required for the industrialisation process and protect themselves from economic and political crises emanating from developed countries.

"Priority must be given to the exploitation of the pan-Arab market if the Arab economy is to be developed," the editorial says, adding that the pan-Arab market has the potential for rapid growth.

The best way of exploiting Arab markets is to establish and support joint ventures guaranteed by inter-Arab treaties, argues the editorial.

"If the Oapec-sponsored ventures expand and coordinate their activities, they could constitute a nucleus for initiating other ventures and for exploring new avenues of cooperation that could help build a thriving pan-Arab oil industry."

The need for markets is stressed by the Arab petrochemical industry, writes the "Bulletin." The availability of markets is a prerequisite to the exploitation of "economies of scale" which form the basis of the viability of petrochemical plants.

The editorial points out that the limited size of markets in individual countries requires them to rely increasingly on pan-Arab markets and consolidate their negotiating positions vis-à-vis the world market.

It also says that Arab energy conferences serve to lay down the framework for Arab economic integration based on the principle of solidarity and mutual benefit.

The "Bulletin" hopes that the fourth Arab energy conference in Baghdad next month will underline the need for continued support for joint Arab action in energy, particularly oil, which is the main source of Arab energy and revenues.

## Saudis and North Yemen agree to step up trade relations

RIYADH, Feb 12. (Fana): Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Abdulaziz Al Zamil, met here today with the visiting North Yemeni Minister for Economy, Supply and Trade Mohammad Al Khadim Al Wajih.

The meeting, which was attended by the Industry and Electricity Under Secretary Mubarak Al Khafra, Saudi ambassador to North Yemen Ali Al Qifidi and North Yemen ambassador to the kingdom Ghalib Jameel, dealt with cooperation in industrial and economic fields.

After the meeting, Al Zamil told SPA that the meeting has covered the joint cooperation between the kingdom and North Yemen in the fields of industry and economy.

**Cooperation**

He said the kingdom has offered to promote cooperation with North Yemen in economic and industrial fields and expressed hope that more industrial projects will be established either in North Yemen or Saudi Arabia in future.

Meanwhile, the joint Saudi-North Yemeni commission for economic cooperation concluded its first session here today under the co-chairmanship of Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Aba Al Khail and North Yemeni Minister Al Wajih.

The commission formulated the general basis of its future work, missions and activities.

The commission reviewed the development of volume of trade exchanges between Saudi Arabia and North Yemen and affirmed its keenness to enlarge and diversify these trade exchanges in line with its mission to further strengthen bilateral ties in the economic and trade fields to an optimum level of strong relations between their governments and people.

## Trade surplus may drop to half

# Japan catching up to US on foreign aid

WASHINGTON, Feb 12. (Agencies): The man who coordinates the foreign aid that is provided by 18 countries says that if present trends continue Japan may reach the US level in three or four years.

"Of course, we can't predict what the US contribution will be," said Joseph E. Wheeler, the American chairman of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The Japanese trend is up. Until 1964 Japan itself was still on the receiving end of food aid from the United States. Wheeler, recalling the aid given by the Marshall Plan and other US programmes after World War II, called Japan's transformation from a receiver to a donor a success for US diplomacy.

According to his figures, the United States provided \$9.56 billion worth of aid in 1986, the last year for which comparable figures are available. Japan's contribution was \$5.63 billion.

**Contribution**

But Wheeler also computes the contribution another way: The total value of all the goods and services that Japan produces in a year is still much smaller than this country's gross national product. But out of every \$1,000 of the national earnings, Japan provides \$2.90 in aid for the

Third World. The United States provides only \$2.30 out of every \$1,000.

On this list, Norway is at the top, providing \$12 out of every \$1,000, the Netherlands was second with \$10.20.

France supplies 4.90 — 7.20 if some not-quite-independent areas are included — and West Germany 4.30. The United States is close to the bottom and was actually at the bottom in 1985.

"Austria has crept in underneath," Wheeler explained.

Wheeler pointed out that on the other hand, the United States spends about 6 per cent of its national product on defense, including the defense of many other countries. Japan spends a little more than 1 per cent on defense.

**Aid**

Another way of looking at the aid picture is this, Wheeler suggested: In 1966, the United States supplied 59 per cent of a total \$21.7 billion in aid and Japan supplied only 4 per cent; in 1976 the United States supplied 31 per cent of \$24.1 billion, and Japan had doubled its contribution to 8 per cent; by 1986 Japan was supplying 15 per cent of \$36.6 billion and the US contribution was down to 26 per cent.

Wheeler noted that in the early 1980s the bulk of the loans going

to the Third World came from private banks. They cut their lending sharply after the international debt crisis began in 1982.

He said he hoped the situation would reverse again, but warned that this would not come soon — especially for poor African countries. A reversal would be healthy, he said.

"The concern is that debt is not going away," he said.

The World Bank estimates that Third World debt will reach \$1.25 trillion by the end of this year.

**Growth**

Japan's trade surplus in January, to be announced on Monday, is likely to plunge to nearly half the \$4.3 billion-level registered last year, economists predicted today.

"That would mark the ninth straight month of declines and help confirm that Japan's trade balance is improving," said Soichiro Akahane, economist for the Bank of Tokyo.

Imports have accelerated from the stronger yen, which has lowered the costs of foreign goods, and from the spirited domestic economy, which has increased Japanese hunger for more of the cheaper products made overseas, economists said.

"There has been no sign that

import growth has peaked either," said David Gerstenhaber, senior economist for Morgan Stanley International. "Not only has growth been rapid, it is still accelerating."

Even when excluding such variable goods as gold and mineral fuels, imports have shown a steady rise during the past quarters, he said.

Richard Jerram, economist for Kleinwort Benson International, who sees a 40 per cent surge in imports in January, said he does not expect much slowing from that rate of growth for a while.

Imports should show an average of 30 per cent growth over the next few months," he said.

**Exports**

Jerram said exports also could rise to a double-digit figure in January but considers that growth to be an aberration due to the recent weakening of the dollar.

A lower dollar forces exporters to raise their prices of goods, thus boosting the value of their shipments even though volume remains unchanged.

Akane said he believes export growth will slow in January.

Exports had been particularly high in January last year because of active Japanese car shipments to the European Economic Com-

munity, he said. The Japanese car makers had used all their quota before the end of 1986 so they stepped up their shipments to Europe at the start of 1987, he added.

"But January this year, there were no such special factors," Akane said.

Japan has already reported its overall trade data for the first 20 days of January, which showed a deficit of \$518 million against a \$990.8 million surplus a year earlier.

**Shortfall**

A shortfall for the first part of January is not unusual.

New Year holidays often distort the data by causing imported goods to build up at the ports from late December and all must pass quickly through customs when the holidays end.

Trade usually normalises by the last 10 days of the month.

"Only 45 per cent of exports are usually shipped in the first 20 days of the month. That means more than half of the exports come in the last 10 days," Gerstenhaber said.

All the economists predicted the full January figures would swing back to a surplus from the interim deficit, with the median forecast at a \$2.4 billion surplus.

The forecast ranged between surpluses of \$1.9 billion and \$2.8 billion.

# EEC leaders battle to save summit

BRUSSELS, Feb 12. (Reuters): Fresh rows over ruinous farm spending threw the European Economic Community's emergency summit into disarray today, propelling the 12-nation bloc closer to financial chaos.

Talks on the second day of the summit adjourned soon after they began. Chairman, West Germany failed to produce a promised compromise to bridge huge differences on reining in farm subsidies and injecting desperately need cash into EEC coffers.

Diplomats said West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl held individual meetings with the key players to probe for common ground and keep the summit going. The other leaders sat waiting at the main conference table throughout the morning.

"There is frustration. I am not optimistic," a Bonn official told reporters.

"Only patience and good luck can save the summit now," another diplomat commented.

**Alliance**

Diplomats said the fragile alliance between France and West Germany to protect their politically powerful farmers had cracked wide open, further complicating the tangle of conflicting national interests at stake in the negotiations.

Even if the needs of Germany's small-scale farmers and France's aggressive exporters could be reconciled, Britain and the Netherlands were poised to block any deal that did not drastically curb runaway subsidies.



West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl gestures while arriving for the European Economic Community emergency summit in Brussels on Thursday. The 12-nation group is still far apart on forging a durable deal to stop from running out of cash. (Reuters wirephoto)

A repeat of the leaders' summit failure in Copenhagen two months ago would damage the Community's international standing and accelerate its slide towards bankruptcy.

**System**

The EEC operating under an emergency financing system and will run out of money in the late summer.

As details emerged of a heated debate at a working dinner late last night, prospects of concessions by British Prime Minister

Margaret Thatcher or France's Jacques Chirac looked increasingly bleak.

French sources said British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe described one Chirac proposal as "insane," prompting an angry exchange with the French Prime Minister.

Other diplomats said Thatcher had shown no flexibility on agriculture and forecasted a return of the EEC summit in Brussels last June when she was left isolated on the same issue.

But British officials said Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers had repeated his support for her stance at a breakfast meeting, their second in two days.

Kohl held his traditional mid-summit breakfast session with French President Francois Mitterrand, who is expected to run against Chirac in presidential elections in April. Mitterrand appealed for compromise at yesterday's working dinner.

## Turkish budget projects a \$2b deficit

ANKARA, Feb 12. (Reuters): The Turkish government plans to increase its budget by 60 per cent in 1988 and projects a deficit of 2,427 billion lira (\$2.1 billion), the Anatolian news agency said yesterday.

Finance and Customs Minister Kurtcepe Altinok said the 39,215 billion lira (\$34.2 billion) draft budget would be debated in Parliament on February 15, the agency reported.

Newspapers had predicted the budget would include austerity measures to curb an inflation rate now running at 60 per cent a year and bolster a support package for the Turkish lira announced last week.

The draft 1988 budget followed reports that the deficit in 1987's 23,237 billion lira (\$25 billion) budget reached 2,157 billion lira (then \$2.4 billion), up 86 per cent from 1986.

**Spending**

Altinok said spending would be controlled by dampening internal demand, reducing investment expenditure to 2,825 billion lira (\$2.4 billion) and diverting new cigarette and alcohol taxes to health and education.

The budget forecast a 1988 growth rate of five per cent and an inflation of 33 per cent. It set an exports target of \$12.33 billion against imports of \$16.36 billion, up 21 and 16 per cent respectively on the 1987 trade figures.

## US retail sales rise 0.5 pc

WASHINGTON, Feb 12. (Reuters): US retail sales rose in January for the third month in a row, the government said yesterday, adding a positive signal to a cheerboard of conflicting economic indicators.

Business in the nation's retail stores last month rose a moderate 0.5 per cent, or \$619 million, to \$128.08 billion, the Commerce Department said.

The gain, which exceeded many economists' expectations, followed increases of 1.2 per cent in December and 0.3 per cent in November, both revised upward from the department's previously reported results for those months.

Excluding the volatile category of cars, the department said sales were up 0.2 per cent last month after rising 0.9 per cent in December.

The continued strength in retail sales shows that consumer spending may not be as weak as had been thought, and confirms that the October stock market

crash has done little to inhibit consumer spending, economists said.

"While they're not fabulously, tremendously good numbers, they certainly don't show a real weakness in consumer spending," said economist Kathryn Kobe, vice president of the Washington forecasting firm Joel Popkin and Company.

"In general, we aren't expecting a recession this year," she added. "We are expecting one next year."

**Drop**

Many economists had said a drop in consumer spending, either caused or worsened by the stock market decline, would drag US economic growth to near a standstill in the first part of the year and possibly cause a recession.

Last month the government reported that personal consumption spending in the fourth quarter of last year took its steepest dive since 1980. But economists now said they expect the personal

spending estimate to be revised upward.

Continued economic growth would help the Republican Party keep control of the White House in the November elections, political analysts say, but the retail sales report is part of a mosaic of indicators that gives a mixed reading for the economy.

**Declined**

The amount of unsold business inventories rose sharply in the last part of 1987, while the index of leading economic indicators declined for three consecutive months and growth in employment slowed.

On the other hand, factory orders remain strong, exports are growing and first-time claims for unemployment insurance have fallen sharply in the last two weeks.

Retail sales in January were at their highest level since August 1987, when they totalled \$128.9 billion, and were 8.5 per cent higher than they were 12 months earlier.

## Murdoch threatens to shut New York Post

NEW YORK, Feb 12. (Reuters): Publisher Rupert Murdoch said today he would shut his New York Post newspaper on February 19 unless unions agreed to pay cuts so that he could sell it to a man who would only guarantee its existence for a year.

At this point, whether or not the Post survives is entirely up to cooperation from our unions, Murdoch said as he presented take-it-or-leave-it proposals to the paper's union chiefs.

The Australian-born media baron told the unions he needed pay cuts of 12 per cent and agreement to cut 77 jobs before he could sell it to real estate developer Peter Kalikow for \$37 million.

Murdoch told the unions: "This is a very difficult time for everyone at the Post... there is a lot at stake for everyone."

He added that Kalikow, listed by Forbes magazine as one of the 400 richest men in America,

has made a commitment to publish the Post for a year and clearly wanted to keep it alive beyond that time.

Murdoch said of all the potential bidders, Kalikow was the most likely to succeed in reviving the paper. Murdoch said the Post's losses were running at about \$15 million a year and that advertising was down by 25 per cent over last year.

Murdoch agreed on Sunday to sell the paper to Kalikow provided the unions agreed to sweeping concessions.

Kalikow gave no assurances on the paper's survival but said in a statement: "I will not allow myself to sit on the sidelines and watch another New York institution become a memory."

Murdoch is forced to sell it because of a Federal Communications Commission prohibition against the same company owning both a television station and a newspaper in a single same market.

## World Business Summary

### Joint Asean-US trade study planned

WASHINGTON, Feb 12. (AP): The United States and the six countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations have announced plans for a joint study into expanding their flourishing trade and investments.

A US-Asean free-trade area similar to those the United States has organized with Canada and Israel remains a future possibility, but is ruled out for now because the United States "is swamped with too many other trade issues at present," said Allen Wallis, US Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs. Wallis and Yeo Chow-Tong, Deputy Foreign Minister of Singapore, at a news conference, announced the "Asean-US initiative" for a joint study aimed at further expanding economic exchange while easing frictions over such matters as unbalanced trade, market barriers and low commodity prices.

Wallis and Yeo were joint chairmen of the annual Asean-US economic dialogue which ended last night. The six Asean countries voiced concern during the session that reduction of the US trade deficit would mean for them reduced sales of their products to the United States. The American side assured them the result would be increased overall trade without reduction of their exports, Yeo said. The seven delegations met into the night putting final touches on a joint statement covering their two-day talks at the state departments. Besides Singapore, the Asian countries are Brunei, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

### Nigerian minister stresses need for local raw materials

LAGOS, Feb 12. (Opecna): Nigeria's Minister of Science and Technology, Prof. Emmanuel Emovon, yesterday urged members of the newly-created raw materials research and development council to map out strategies for eliminating all factors militating against the utilisation of local raw materials. Inaugurating the 23-member council, Emovon said that the council was expected to stimulate the supply of raw materials for industries in order to enhance industrial development in the country. Tracing the efforts made in the country in the past to solve the problem of local raw material "sourcing," the minister said that the import bills for raw materials rose from \$61.63 million in 1972 to 427.38 million and 419.52 million in 1985 and 1986 respectively.

He announced that data on raw material processing in the agro-related chemical, energy, plastic, building material, metal-working and engineering sectors were already available in Nigerian research institutes. Emovon projected that the country would be able to produce 90 per cent of its industrial raw and intermediate inputs by the year 2000. He said Nigeria could achieve that goal because the federal government had "provided the necessary machinery and atmosphere."

### IPE forging ahead with plans to revitalise oil contract

LONDON, Feb 12. (UPI): The International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) is forging ahead with its plans to revitalise its dormant crude oil contract, a spokesman for IPE said today.

In late January, the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) voted against a link-up with the IPE. This link would have allowed dealers to trade NYMEX crude oil futures and options in London before the New York opening. Since NYMEX's decision, the IPE has moved rapidly forward with its scheme to revive its stagnating crude contract. "We are determined to go forward with a viable, fully liquid crude contract in London," IPE chairman Derek Whiting said.

IPE board members currently favour a 1,000 barrel contract based on North Sea Brent crude with cash settlement each month against an index or panel value for Brent on one of the last trading days of the contract. The IPE would continue to have an exchange for physicals whereby the buyer transfers to the seller an equivalent amount of long futures contracts, or receives a corresponding amount of short futures at an agreed price.

The IPE crude contract committee is supposed to meet late today with professional advisers to review contract specifications and was expected to make a recommendation about the precise structure of the contract to the board at its next meeting late February, IPE said.



ISSUE OF 25.3 LAKH EQUITY SHARES OF RS. 10 EACH FOR CASH AT A PREMIUM OF RS. 75 PER SHARE AGGREGATING RS. 21.5 CRORES.

ISSUE OPENS TODAY

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PURE EQUITY. PURE OPPORTUNITY.  
Garden Silk Mills Ltd.

Bankers of the Issue (NRI)

Bank of Baroda Citibank N.A. Grindlays Bank plc.  
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.

## New Zealand announces major tax cuts

WELLINGTON, Feb 12. (Reuters): New Zealand said today it would start slashing company and personal taxes in a few weeks but deferred a planned single rate of income tax for further consideration.

Company taxes will fall as low as 28 per cent from April 1 and their highest rate of personal tax will be 33 per cent from October 1. Top rate for both taxes is now 48 per cent.

Finance Minister Roger

Douglas said the reductions costing about one billion dollars (\$660 million) would be balanced by raising a similar amount through closing tax loopholes and exemptions.

The New Zealand dollar rose sharply to 66.15 US cents from 65.55 in response to the news.

Douglas and Prime Minister David Lange, appearing together for the first time in weeks, both stressed the package did not require either an increase

in Value Added Tax or cuts in social spending.

Their announcement at a joint news conference ended two weeks of uncertainty in financial and political circles about the government's real intentions on tax reforms.

On December 17, Douglas announced plans for reforms, including a flat rate for income tax. He did not disclose its level.

On January 28, Lange said the reforms would leave some people

worse off and the package would be delayed.

Douglas responded by cutting short an overseas visit and flying home from London to defend publicly the proposed reforms and the figures on which they were based.

Political analysts viewed the affair as indicating a rift between the two most prominent members of a labour government that has won plaudits from world economists for its policies.



## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1988

LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	045/0
ABBEY LFE	250.0	195/0
ALD LYONS	337.11	328.0
AMSTRAD	142/0	354/0
ARGYLE	187/0	478/0
ASDA MFI	162.0	385/0
A B FOODS	286.0	298/0
BAA PI	108/0	262.0
BTR	247/0	251.0
BAT INOS	437/0	253/0
BARCLAYS	466.0	255.0
BASS	768/0	258/0
BEAZER	189.0	250.0
BEECHAMS	459/0	250.0
BET ORD	326/0	250.0
BICC PLC	239.0	250.0
BLUE ARM	96/0	250.0
BLUE CIRC	417/0	250.0
BOC GP	397.0	250.0
BOOTS CO	226/0	250.0
BPB INDS	265/0	250.0
BR COM	293.0	250.0
BR AIRWAY	161.5	250.0
BR AEROSP	346.0	250.0
BR GAS PP	29.37	250.0
B.P.	262/0	250.0
B.P. NEW	76/0	250.0
BR TELCOM	245/0	250.0
BRITOL	496/0	250.0
BUNZL	168/0	250.0
BURMAN OL	76.00	250.0
BURTON	220/0	250.0
CABLEWIR	340.0	250.0
CABURYS	243/0	250.0
COATS VV	237.0	250.0
COMS UNI	320/0	250.0
CONG GOLD	800/0	250.0
COWBOYS	550.0	250.0
COURTAULD	308/0	250.0
DALGETY	303/0	250.0
DEE CP	188.0	250.0
DIXONS	178.0	250.0
ENG CHINA	388.0	250.0
ENTER OIL	291/0	250.0
FERRANTI	80/0	250.0
FISONS	254.0	250.0
GEN ACCID	820/0	250.0
GEN ELEC	153/0	250.0
GLAXO	1030.0	250.0
GRANADA	29.67	250.0
GLOBE	137.0	250.0
GRAND NET	433.0	250.0
GUS A	055.0	250.0
GUARD RYL	855/0	250.0
GKN	302.0	250.0
GUINNESS	272.0	250.0
HUMBERS A	535/0	250.0
HANSON	136.0	250.0
HAKER SID	87.00	250.0
HAMLEY	104/4	250.0
HILLSDOWN	277/0	250.0

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
A.B. ELECT	357/0	357/0
APV PLC	115/0	116/0
AARONSON	120/0	121/0
AAH HOLD	289/0	287/0
ADOLSON G	87/0	86/0
ADVEST GP	292/0	291/0
ALEX WRK	174/0	175/0
ALLD IR B	215/0	215/0
ALLIANCE	785/0	785/0
ALD COLL	127/0	127/0
ALD PLAM	51/0	52/0
AMARI PLC	149/0	150/0
AMER TRUS	113/0	112/0
AMERSHAM	482/0	481/0
ANGLIA TV	419/0	420/0
ANSBACHER	67/0	68/0
APPLEYARD	349/0	348/0
APRICOT	110/0	109/0
ARMSTRONG	128/0	127/0
ANGLO O'S	392/0	388/0
AQUAS A	75/0	76/0
ASHLEY L	117/0	117/0
ATMOS	280/0	280/0
AUTO SEC	240/0	245/0
AVIS EUR	308/0	307/0
AVON RUBB	605/0	605/0
BSS INTL	620/0	620/0
BAILL JAP	438/0	438/0
BANKER IT	67/0	67/0
BK OF SCO	564/0	564/0
BARKER DO	140/0	140/2
BART DEV	182/0	181/0
B.WEIMILL	152/0	151/0
BEJAN GP	175/0	176/0
BELHAVEN	43/0	43/0
BELLWAY	224/0	223/0
BENROSE	214/0	215/0
BEHLOO HD	42/0	41/0
BENNETT +F	38/0	40/0
BENTALLS	188/0	188/0
BERSFORD	313/0	309/0
BERKELEY	264/0	263/0
BRILLY MAY	23/4	23/4
BLACK L 2	23/4	23/4
BOASE MAS	261/0	261/0
BOODINGTON	145/0	146/0
BOOKER PL	379/0	378/0
BOWTHICK	48/0	48/0
BOWATER	358/0	358/0
BOYTHORPE	178/0	179/0
BRANMER	223/0	223/0
BRENT CHE	129/0	129/0
BRENT WKR	314/0	313/0
BRIDON	139/0	140/0
BRITANNIC	003/0	005/0
BR ASSETS	67/0	66/0
BR LND CO	259/0	258/0
BR VITA	419/0	419/0
BRITTON E	239/0	239/0

## World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-OAS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1383.0	1381.0	1360.4	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	977.8	971.4	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	87.33	81.19	870.22
FT GOV SEC	88.45	88.51	88.63	88.49
FT GOLD MH	255.9	252.7	259.0	302.1
FT MINES F	0	404.81	394.42	450.65
FT OIL	0	1764.1	1752.2	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	117.54	117.37	115.98	115.04
FT MLD STG	99.10	98.79	98.46	90.79
FT MLD LOC	105.08	104.90	103.84	99.08

## London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS MIXED ON LOWER U.S. TRADE DEFICIT  
LONDON, FEB 12 - SHARES STOOD MIXED IN LATE TRADING DESPITE NEWS OF A SMALLER THAN EXPECTED DECEMBER U.S. TRADE DEFICIT, WITH THE CONTINUING ABSENCE OF INSTITUTIONAL INTEREST PREVENTING A RALLY, ANALYSTS SAID.

AT 1530 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS UP JUST 3.0 POINTS AT 1,383.8 WITH VOLUME AT 1500 GMT A PALTRY 23.9 MLN SHARES. THE DECEMBER U.S. TRADE SHORTFALL WAS 12.2 BILLION DLRS COMPARED WITH 13.2 BILLION DLRS IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH AND MANY MARKET ESTIMATES OF AROUND 13.75 BILLION DLRS. HOWEVER, DEALERS NOTED THAT SOME PLAYERS HAD BEEN REVISING THEIR FORECASTS DOWNWARD IN RECENT DAYS.

DEALERS WERE MAINLY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE MUTED REACTION TO THE FIGURE. "UNTIL THE INSTITUTIONS ARE TEMPTED BACK INTO THIS MARKET I CAN'T SEE IT GOING ANYWHERE", ONE TRADER SAID. HE PREDICTED THE FTSE INDEX WOULD CONTINUE TO TRADE WITHIN ITS CURRENT TRADING RANGE OF BETWEEN 1,700 AND 1,800 AT LEAST UNTIL THE U.K. BUDGET ON MARCH 15.

LONDON'S REACTION TO THE FIGURE APPEARED TO BE AT ODDS WITH ITS RECENT PREOCCUPATION WITH THE TREND ON WALL STREET, WHICH AFTER A RESISTANT START STAGED A FAIRLY STRONG RALLY. THE U.S. BOND MARKET, HOWEVER, WAS RELATIVELY UNIMPRESSED WITH THE FIGURE AND MET PROFIT-taking AFTER AN INITIAL SURGE.

## London Gold

LONDON, FEB 12 - GOLD BULLION STAGED A RAPID RECOVERY AFTER PRICES EARLIER PLUMMETED ON LOW LIQUIDATION TO LOWEST LEVELS FOR 10 MONTHS FOLLOWING A SMALLER THAN EXPECTED DECEMBER U.S. TRADE DEFICIT.

IT EVEN MANAGED TO CLOSE FIRMER DESPITE A STRONGER DOLLAR, ENDING THE DAY ONE DLR UP AT 442.50/443.00 DLRS AN OUNCE. DEALERS SAID GOLD FOUND GOOD SUPPORT AROUND 435/436, BASIS NEAR APRIL COMEX. THE FAILURE TO MOVE EVEN LOWER TRIGGERED HEAVY SHORT-COVERING AND IT QUICKLY WIPE OUT LOSSES.

GOLD'S LOW FOR THE DAY OF 435.00/436.00 WAS ALSO ITS LOWEST LEVEL IN LONDON SINCE APRIL 13, 1987.

## London Money Market

LONDON, FEB 12 - MONEY RATES ENDED MIXED AFTER A SESSION DOMINATED BY THE U.S. TRADE DATA, AND THESE FIGURES SEEM TO HAVE LEFT THE U.K. INTEREST RATE PICTURE NO CLEARER, DEALERS SAID.

MONEY RATES AT FIRST EASED ON THE LOWER THAN EXPECTED DECEMBER TRADE DEFICIT OF 12.2 BILLION DLRS BUT THEN MOVED BACK UP. VOLUME IN EITHER DIRECTION WAS LOW, DEALERS SAID.

THE INITIAL DOWNWARD MOVEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO A BRIEF, SHARP JUMP IN STERLING AGAINST THE MARK WHICH WAS HIT BY THE DOLLAR RALLY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TRADE DATA. BUT OTHERS FOUND IT HARD TO PIN EXPLANATIONS ON THE MINUTE-BY-MINUTE gyrations IN STERLING FUTURES AND CASH RATES.

## Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	CHF	FFR	OPEN
1.7540/50	1.7350/70	1.7150/00	5.8050/8150	NOON
1.6951/7011	2.970/984	2.9745/85	10.0555/0665	FIX
5.7430/7570	10.0615/0795	337.8/338.4	29.305/665	FIX
1.3930/3940	2.4429/4461	82.09/19	24.28/32	1300
1.9075	3.3450	112.30	33.20	FIX
1.21519	0.693205	2.06460	6.98125	NOON
1.35808	0.772031	2.29638	7.76346	CLSE
129.75/85	227.49/80			NOON
SOR RATES	11/02/1988	OTHERS	12/02/1988	

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID	CLOSE
A B SCH CON	31/1	31/3	
ATLANTIC R	77/4	78/5	
AAR CORP	20/1	19/7	
AETNA LIFE	46/6	47/0	
ALASKA AIR	14/7	14/6	
ALCAN ALUM	26/0	25/6	
ALCO STAP	22/4	22/6	
AM CAP SEC	26/3	26/3	
AMER CYANA	46/4	46/1	
AN FAMILY	13/6	13/5	
AM HON PRO	75/2	75/2	
AM STORES	57/0	56/2	
AMER T T	29/4	29/3	
ANAK	17/2	17/0	
AMOCO CP	74/7	74/6	
AMP INC	46/5	46/0	
AMPCO PITT	0	0	
AMR GEN CO	35/3	35/4	
AMRD HESS	27/3	27/2	
ANTHONY ELE	9/6	9/5	
APACHE CP	8/5	8/3	
APACHE PET	4/0	4/0	
ARCO INC	10/4	10/4	
ASARCO INC	22/1	22/0	
ASHLAND OIL	57/7	57/3	
ATLS CORP	32/2	31/4	
AVERY INT	20/6	20/5	
AVNET INC	25/3	25/3	
AVON PRODS	24/0	24/0	
BCE INC	30/0	30/1	
BELL-HOW A	61/5	61/5	
BELL-HOW B	61/5	61/5	
BETH STEEL	17/5	17/2	
BEVERLY	7/3	7/2	
BNK BOSTON	25/1	25/0	
BNK BSTM-A	49/2	49/2	
BNK N-YORK	30/3	30/4	
BNK TR-NY	35/0	35/2	
BANKAMER	8/1	8/2	
BANK SPEC	6/3	6/2	
BOEING	47/0	47/0	
BOISE CASC	42/2	42/0	
BORDEN	51/5	51/5	
BORG-WARNER	0	0	
BOMATEX	32/0	31/4	
BR TELECOM	43/1	43/0	
BRIGGS-STR	29/2	29/0	
BRIST-MYER	43/4	44/0	
BRUNSWICK	17/5	17/3	
BURBURY CP	14/5	14/4	
C 3 INC	10/6	10/6	
CABOT CORP	32/4	32/2	
CAESARS W	23/0	22/7	
CAROLI FRE	19/0	19/2	
CAS NAT GS	14/2	14/3	
CAT-COOK	20/4	20/2	
CATERPILLAR	60/4	60/2	
CB IND	22/0	22/0	
CBS	162/4	161/1	
CENTEL CP	39/4	39/6	
CENTRO DAT	2/5	2/2	
CHAMP INTL	32/5	32/5	
CHAMP ST	11/6	11/4	
CHARTER CO	3/6	3/7	
CHASE MANH	22/4	22/2	
CHRYSLER	35/6	36/0	
CHRYSLER	22/2	22/2	
CHEVRO	25/3	25/3	
CHRYSLER	58/3	58/3	
CHUR FR CH	7/2	7/3	
CIGNA CORP	47/3	47/3	
CIN MILACR	21/2	21/6	
CIR CIT ST	22/2	22/3	
CIRCLE K	12/5	12/5	
CITICORP	19/6	19/5	
CLARK EQUI	25/0	24/7	
CLOVER	29/1	29/2	
CMPLL RES	1/4	1/4	
CMPLL SP	27/2	27/0	
CND PACIFIC	17/2	17/2	
COACHMEN	6/7	6/6	
COASTAL	29/1	29/1	
COCA COLA	36/4	36/6	
COLECO	3/3	3/3	
COLEMAN CO	34/3	34/3	
COLGATE	44/0	42/2	
COLT INDS	12/0	11/7	
COLLINS	32/6	33/0	
COMBIS	27/5	27/4	
COMER	26/1	26/2	
COMS ED-NY	45/1	45/1	
CONTINENTAL	40/2	40/4	
CONTEL ILLH	*10	*9	
CONTEL CP	34/2	34/3	
CONTR DATA	22/7	23/0	
COOPER T-R	30/3	30/2	
COOPER CON	10/1	10/1	
CORNING GL	53/6	53/1	
CRANE	25/5	25/3	
CRAY RES	76/0	76/0	
CULLEN	5/7	5/6	
DANIEL IND	7/2	7/2	
DATA GEN	27/0	26/6	
DATAPORT	3/7	3/7	
DAYTON IND	34/4	34/0	
DIG EQUIP	119/3	120/0	
DEERE CO	39/0	39/1	
DELTA AIR	45/2	45/3	
DIAMOND SH	8/7	9/1	
DIEBOLD	44/2	44/4	
DISEY W	58/6	58/2	
DOVER CORP	56/6	56/2	
DOW CHEN	82/0	82/0	
DOW JONES	30/4	30/2	
DRESSER	28/0	28/0	
DUFFY	28/2	28/0	
DUXE POWER	45/7	46/3	
DUN BRAD	48/5	48/4	
DUPONT	81/3	81/2	
DUKESNE	13/0	13/1	
DYNAMICS	17/1	17/1	
E SYSTEMS	28/5	28/2	
EASTMAN K	42/1	41/7	
EATON CORP	69/4	69/2	
EMERY AIR	7/0	6/7	
EMHART CP	20/6	20/5	
ETHYL CP	20/7	20/7	
EXXON	40/4	40/3	
FAM DOL ST	8/7	8/7	
FED EXPRESS	42/4	42/4	
FIELDCREST	18/0	18/0	
FIN COR-AM	1/6	1/6	
FIRESTONE	34/5	34/3	
FNC CORP	25/7	25/7	
FORD MOTOR	42/7	42/4	
FORD HOWAR	37/4	37/4	
FOXBORO CO	25/4	25/2	
FRXOLD IND	8/2	8/2	
FST BANK	23/4	23/4	
FST BOSTON	23/0	23/2	
FST CHICAG	22/7	22/3	
FST CTB BK	*11	*10	
FST NAT 8C	34/4	34/2	
FSR CORP	48/0	48/0	
GANNET CO	35/1	35/1	

## Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
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## Kuwait's expansionary fiscal policy gives new push to local trade

## Gulf non-oil GDP growth looks set to continue

GENERAL economic conditions in the Gulf region stabilised in 1987, with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) showing some positive growth following several years of economic retrenchment. A partial recovery in the region's oil revenue was recorded, together with a modest pick-up in non-oil activities.

However, governments have kept public spending tight control and the overall performance continued to be adversely affected by such external factors as the Iran-Iraq war, the precipitous decline of the US dollar and the oversupply conditions in the world's oil market, according to Henry Assam, the chief economist of Gulf International Bank.

The scope of economic growth in 1988 appears to be limited, tempered by a generally weak oil market and the contractionary pressures still holding on the domestic scene.

He said some weakness in oil prices especially during the first half of the year, but not a price collapse. This could be avoided as most Opec members return gradually to their agreed upon quotas.

## Merits

The restrained 1988 government budgets, the drop in the purchasing power of the Gulf currencies (tied mostly to the dollar), the generally tighter bank credit, the planned increase in import duties and the reduction in subsidies in certain Gulf countries will further constrain the growth of domestic demand.

While overall economic activities may simply linger on in 1988, the improvement of last year's non-oil GDP is foreseen to continue, with a larger private sector role featuring perhaps as the most significant development this year.

Several GCC countries recognised the merits of borrowing

internally as a complement to belt tightening and drawdown of foreign reserves.

The aim is not only to help finance the budget but also to tap a large domestic pool of liquidity and mobilise private sector resources.

Kuwait started an elaborate public debt programme, introducing for the first time medium term treasury bonds to the region.

Bahrain and Oman proceeded with the issue of treasury bills, while the UAE tapped directly the excess liquidity of its domestic commercial banks.

Only Oman borrowed from the international market, while Saudi Arabia intends in its 1988 budget to raise up to \$8 billion through the sale of treasury bonds in the Kingdom's financial market.

## Trends

Despite the generally declining economic trends of the past few years, there were some positive developments in 1987.

In Saudi Arabia, for example, non-oil GDP grew by 0.8 per cent last year compared to declines of 2.3 per cent and 5.7 per cent in 1986 and 1985 respectively. Exports of non-oil products were up by 25 per cent boosting overall exports by 16 per cent.

Inflation in the Kingdom remained under control with the cost of living index declining by 1.4 per cent following a decline of 3.1 per cent in 1986.

Even though imports have grown by about 5 per cent (the first positive growth in three years), this did not reflect negatively on the country's trade surplus which recorded a noticeable improvement in 1987.

In Kuwait, non-oil GDP grew by 6.4 per cent in 1987, with growth in total GDP estimated at around 2 per cent.

The government took steps to reduce its dependence on oil

revenues and put in a comprehensive government-sponsored settlement programme to deal with the bad debt issues.

Data released show that about 94 per cent of the total debt settlement cases have been technically settled.

Expansionary fiscal policy pursued by the government helped to uplift domestic activities.

In Bahrain, measures introduced at the end of 1986 helped to boost confidence in the island last year.

This together with the marginal improvement in the country's oil revenues brought forth an estimated 2 per cent growth in nominal GDP last year.

Oman's economy bounced back in 1987 from the negative growth of the year before, following the improvement in oil prices, with nominal GDP estimated to have grown by around 3 per cent in 1987.

Foreign borrowing has been limited to minimal levels and the introduction of treasury bills in June last year proved to be a success and provided the government with local sources for short time borrowing.

## Improvement

The UAE economy rebounded as well with nominal 1987 GDP growth of around 6 per cent. Inflation was noticeably higher at 2 per cent, consumption and investment expenditures increased by 7 per cent and 8 per cent respectively, while the increase in government expenditures was over 9 per cent.

In Qatar, the improved oil revenues last year reflected positively on economic activities in the country with an estimated GDP growth of around 2 per cent.

The outlook was further boosted when the government signed the management consulting contract for the North Field gas project's first phase in May 1987.

Another indicator of modest improvement on the economic scene is the generally higher prices of stocks traded in the region.

The Al Shal index for Kuwaiti shares was up by 7.6 per cent in 1987 closing the year at 41.8 points compared to 38.8 by the end of 1986 and 26.2 in 1985.

The market value of the Kuwaiti shares went up by KD500 million during the course of last year. The index for the Gulf companies also recorded an increase of 9.4 per cent during 1987 closing the year at 50.6 points up from 46.2 points at the end of the year before.

Share prices in Saudi Arabia have rebounded as well last year with the CCFI stock market index recording an increase of 8.2 per cent following declines of 7.5 per cent, 23.7 per cent and 17.1 per cent in 1986, 1985 and 1984 respectively.

The index average for December 1987 was 60.34 compared to a monthly average of 55 in December 1986.

The performance of shares traded in the UAE came mixed with shares prices of banks recording declines for the year with those of insurance, hotels, communications and other services companies performing generally better.

It is important to note that the crash in the stock markets worldwide had little direct impact on prices of stocks traded in the region.

## Optimism

A year ago, the oil market was overshadowed with optimism as harmony among Opec members helped cut production and lift spot crude oil prices from the low levels of around \$13.9 a barrel estimated as an average for 1986 to the official \$18 a barrel agreed upon by Opec.

Prices hit \$20 a barrel during the summer of last year,

encouraging some Opec members to overshoot their quotas. However, by late 1987, crude prices began to slip below the benchmark price when several Opec producers failed to restrain production and conditions of over-supply were created.

The latest Opec meeting of December 1987 extended the existing agreement on pricing and production for the first half of 1988.

Oil prices are to stay at their previous levels based on a reference price of \$18 and production quotas remain unchanged from the second half of 1987.

The new agreement no longer assigns any quota to Iraq, leaving Opec with an output of 15.06 mbd, plus whatever the Iraqis choose to produce on their own.

Iraq is expected to continue to produce around 2.6 mbd. Production over and above the 15.06 mbd Opec's ceiling is projected at around 3 mbd.

In effect, therefore, the Opec production ceiling for the first half of 1988 (i.e. until the next scheduled Opec meeting of June this year) is 8.4 mbd, assuming Opec members adhere to their respective quotas.

## Prices

Following the latest Opec meeting, oil prices plummeted sharply causing Brent crude to fall below \$15 a barrel at one stage. But with indications of increased Opec production discipline, the upward adjustment of world demand for oil by the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the return of seasonally cold weather in Europe and the USA, prices recovered to trade above \$16 a barrel.

While spot prices may trade \$2 to \$3 a barrel below official prices in the first two quarters, in the second half of the year the generally higher demand for Opec

oil may see prices trading up to around \$18 a barrel.

A significant development since the beginning of 1988 is the growing importance of the spot-market part of international oil trade despite Opec's effort to return to officially priced term contracts for its oil.

It is estimated that not more than 20 per cent of Opec's daily production of around 18.5 mbd is sold at official prices. The bulk is being sold on spot market, traded under barter transactions, refined into products that are exported at whatever prices the market can bear, or sold under market related agreements linked to North Sea Brent crude.

## System

Opec was able to revive the fixed price system once and could possibly do it again.

However, given the geopolitical situation in the Gulf and the over-supply conditions in the world oil market, oil prices this year will be characterised by the extreme volatility.

Prices could shoot up (with any sign of a production cut-back by Opec) as quickly as they can fall down when excess supply prevails. Given such volatility it would be difficult to project oil prices for 1988.

The rise in oil prices last year did not choke off world demand for oil. The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimated total demand to have increased to an average of 48.6 mbd, in 1987 compared to 47.8 mbd in 1986, a rise of 1.7 per cent.

Last year's world demand for 48.6 mbd was only slightly higher and demand for 48.2 mbd in 1973. While oil consumption in Western Europe and Japan was more or less stable, a noticeable increase was recorded in the USA. Opec and other developing countries.

## Decline

The latest trade figures suggest that the dollar's decline since 1985, by nearly half against other key currencies, has at last begun to correct the trade imbalance.

## To be continued

## US trade figure gives boost to dollar

LONDON, Feb 12. (Reuters): Figures from Washington showing that the US trade deficit continued to narrow in December sent the dollar bounding up in the money markets today.

The dollar put on two West German pfennings to touch 1.7275 Deutschmarks in Europe within minutes of news that the December monthly trade deficit was \$12.20 billion.

That was down from 13.22 billion in November and from a record 17.63 in October.

The dollar also gained value against Japan's currency, touching a high in European trading at 131.70 yen. It had been trading just below 130 yen before the news from Washington which suggested that America's huge trade imbalance with the rest of the world might now have finally begun to shrink.

## Bonds

US treasury bonds traded in London rose a full one point in reaction to the news from Washington.

New York dealers meanwhile said the dollar rose as high as 1.7275 marks. It was at a 3 1/2 month high against West Germany's currency.

Huge US trade deficits have strained the global economy and been a prime cause of a slide in the dollar's value since 1985, as the United States has poured out more dollars to buy goods than foreign investors really wanted to hold.

They have been particularly wary of holding too many dollars since it has seemed that the United States has been ready to encourage a devaluation of its currency to make its exports more competitive.

## Decline

The latest trade figures suggest that the dollar's decline since 1985, by nearly half against other key currencies, has at last begun to correct the trade imbalance.

The dollar steadied later today as some players sold to cash in gains. European dealers also said that better US trade figures had to some extent been discounted by the market.

London share prices showed a muted response to the news from the United States.

Half an hour after the screens flashed it to brokerage dealing rooms the FTSE index, which measures the value of 100 British blue-chip stocks, was at 1,733 - just above the Thursday close of 1,729.8 points.

## Smaller

Dealers said that, although the deficit was smaller than most forecasters had expected, buying interest faltered when the big institutions failed to enter the market in strength.

"The market's waiting for a breakdown on the figures for a clearer picture" one London dealer said.

Stock market investors outside the United States have been worried lately about the weak dollar, because it erodes the profits of exporting companies.

## UK inflation rate drops

LONDON, Feb 12. (AP): Britain's annual inflation rate fell in January from 3.7 per cent to 3.3 per cent, its lowest level in 15 months, the government said today.

Consumer prices in January showed no percentage change from December, but the annual rate fell because of a 0.4-point rise in the government's retail price index in January 1987.

The Department of Employment said higher prices for food, vehicle insurance and alcohol in January were offset by winter sales that cut the cost of clothing, shoes and household goods.

## Dollar more important than crash, says Bank of England

LONDON, Feb 12. (Reuters): The Bank of England said yesterday that the fall in the US dollar is likely to prove more important to the world economy than the October stock market crash.

The bank's latest quarterly review said the weaker dollar, which hit record lows last month, would help international imbalances but could contribute to a slowing of world growth.

"On evidence to date, the overall judgement must be that the international financial structure survived the (stock market) shock at least passably well," the report said, noting there were no major insolvencies following the collapse.

The dollar fell about 10 per cent between the October crash and the end of the year, but the bank said a rapid turnaround in the US trade deficit was unlikely while the terms of US trade continued to work against an improvement.

Exchange rate changes alone could not correct trade imbalances, it said, and supporting fiscal, monetary and structural policies were needed.

A further sharp fall in the dollar would pose dangers to the world economy, the bank said, adding that a better balance of demand growth between the United States and major surplus nations would reduce the chances of a recession.

The bank said West Germany's modest growth prospects had been dampened by the rise in the West German mark and that its fiscal policies were barely stimulative. It said scope remained for more import liberalisation in Japan, Taiwan and South Korea.

## Oman minister chairs Gulf Air meeting

GULF AIR held its annual board meeting at the Gulf Hotel in Bahrain on February 10.

The meeting was chaired by Hamoud Bin Abdullah Al Harthy Oman's Minister of Communications.

Following the one day meeting the board announced that it has approved a BD 196 million operating budget for 1988 a 10 per cent increase compared to last year.

The board also approved a US\$ 3.5 million loan to Doha civil aviation college for a new training centre for Gulf national pilots to be set up in Doha, Qatar.

Ali Ibrahim Al Malki president and chief executive of Gulf Air also announced that the airline would be leasing a Boeing 737 aircraft to complement additional flight frequencies to GCC countries from April.

This is in addition to the two Boeing 767 aircraft to be leased too. One to arrive in June and the second in November.

## PIC achieves new record

## Bright future predicted for petrochemicals

By Khaled Ahmad

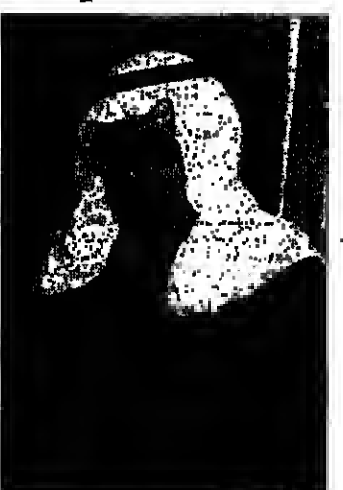
THE Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) achieved a "new record" in the production and export of nitrogen fertilizers last year, according to the chairman, Abdul Baqi Al Nouri.

He said that the company exported 819.7 metric tons of urea and 187 tons of ammonia despite the "unstable circumstances" prevailing in the world petrochemical markets.

He told the Seyssah and Arab Times newspapers that Kuwait had "succeeded in adapting itself" to the changes and developments in the market.

PIC preserved a "good share" of the markets and increased in competitive capabilities in the main markets.

This achieved by establishing good relations with importers and through long-term contracts with easy terms, specially with



Abdul Baqi Al Nouri.

South-East Asia and China.

He said that Kuwait was considered the "most important source" of urea by China. He added that markets of South-

East Asia represented 50 per cent of the trade in urea. He expected some European countries to become importers in the near future.

Al Nouri said that such indications showed there was "a bright future" for petrochemical products within the next few years, adding that Middle East countries owned 38 per cent of the world's natural gas reserves.

## Cooperation

He praised the cooperation in the petrochemical field between Kuwait, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia through the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company. He said this company highlighted the importance of cooperation between the states in the region.

He also praised the joint ventures of PIC with a number of Arab and developing countries.

He sharply criticised the political, economic and media

campaign against the Arab petrochemical industry.

He said that fluctuations in oil prices, the drop in the US dollar exchange rate and the tough competition in the international markets were some of the main obstacles facing the petrochemical and fertilizers industry. The good performance of the Kuwaiti and other Gulf petrochemical industries despite these circumstances showed the "solid base" of these industries.

Al Nouri said that PIC produces salt and chlorine in addition to urea and ammonia. The company recently began producing liquid fertilizers which are suitable for agricultural purposes in Kuwait.

He said PIC was going ahead with its Kuwaitisation programme despite obstacles. Kuwaitis formed 32 per cent of the total employees and included some highly skilled workers.

## Italian trade delegation to visit Kuwait

AN Italian delegation of Pesaro Chamber of Commerce — organiser of Pesaro Furniture Exhibition, will visit Kuwait on March 3.

The team will consist of the president of Pesaro Chamber of Commerce — Italo Binucci and other two members.

The delegation is to organise a meeting with the Kuwaiti importers of home and kitchen furniture to invite them to the 28th Pesaro Furniture Exhibition from May 25 to 30. The team will also give a card that entitles the guest to a free 3 nights bed and breakfast stay in upper second class hotels in Pesaro.

The meeting with the importers will take place at Kuwait Sheraton on March 3, at 10 a.m.

## Syria to set up trade centre in Kuwait

DAMASCUS, Feb 12. (Kuna): Syria will be establishing a trade centre in Kuwait to promote marketing of commodities produced by the local private and public sectors as well as various handicrafts.

An agreement to the effect was signed yesterday by Industry Minister Anton Jabran and a delegation of the Syrian business community in Kuwait.

Under the agreement, Syrian businessmen residing in Kuwait, who initiated the accord and others wishing to join, will secure and equip a suitable hall where Syrian commodities shall be displayed.

Among the important products which the centre will market in Kuwait are agricultural and industrial goods, sanitary hardware and mineral water.

## Lack of ball-bearings forced Soviet factories to a halt

MOSCOW, Feb 12. (Reuters): A shortage of ball-bearings halted entire sectors of Soviet industry in 1987 showing how vulnerable the centrally-planned economy is to small disruptions, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda said.

Factories produced 24 million ball-bearings last year, but Pravda said, stopping machinery in many factories.

"Sometimes a tiny hitch, at times worth only kopecks, in one place causes a disbalancing chain reaction," it added.

## Factors

It was reporting on a Kremlin meeting yesterday which discussed 1987 economic results. Other worrying factors which were raised included:

— reserve stocks worth nearly half a trillion roubles (\$833 billion) have accumulated in industrial storehouses instead of entering the market, slowing economic growth;

— more than 25 per cent of industrial firms exceeded planned production costs last year, and in the key engineering sector the figure reached nearly 30 per cent;

— 13 per cent of Soviet industry and 22 per cent of Soviet agriculture made losses in 1987; — 23 per cent of Soviet industry as a whole failed to meet state production targets (47 per cent in the chemical industry and 56 per cent in machine-building), resulting in economic production losses of 13 billion roubles (\$200 billion).

The government meeting addressed by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and other ministers called following the conversion of 60 per cent of Soviet industry to new, more autonomous "self-financing" operating conditions on January 1 this year.

Pravda said the affected firms faced a dilemma: if they used their available funds to meet state production orders, they did not have enough left over to pay their workers or to make new capital investments to ensure future growth.

The self-financing conversion, a key plank of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's economic restructuring drive, makes firms responsible for their own income and outlay as state subsidies are eased out.

## Heads of US agencies and exchanges meet on market policy

WASHINGTON, Feb 12. (Reuters): Government regulators and stock and futures exchange leaders have launched a series of private meetings to discuss how to prevent another stock market crash, government sources said yesterday.

The meetings mark an unusual degree of coordination among regulators and exchanges and could reflect willingness to respond to calls from the Congress and a presidential task force for a more unified regulatory structure.

The concern follows the stock market crash last October 19 in which the Dow Jones industrial average fell a record 508 points, prompting declines on other markets round the world.

Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) chairman David Ruder, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) acting chairman Kalo Hineman, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) chairman John Phelan and Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) executive committee chairman Leo Melamed met earlier this week in Ruder's office SEC officials said.

## Options

The SEC regulates stocks and options on stocks while the CFTC has jurisdiction over futures and options on futures, causing some friction between the two agencies on policy in their respective jurisdiction.

The four men met to "discuss

areas of mutual concern" and intend to hold more meetings, said the SEC officials, who would not say if the meeting this week was the first in the series or when they would meet next.

But CFTC officials said the talks this week were part of an "ongoing dialogue" between Ruder and Hineman that predated last October's stock market crash.

A congressional official said Ruder and Hineman were interested in determining whether a "formal structure" might be created to improve communication between the agencies.

Last month, US Comptroller General Charles Bowsher urged a meeting between the SEC, CFTC, the Federal Reserve and other agencies to draw up a contingency plan spelling out how they would respond to another stock market crash.

## Reforms

Senate Banking Committee chairman William Proxmire has given government regulatory agencies until March 4 to report to Congress on progress in bringing about reforms.

President Reagan's task force on the stock market crash recommended that one agency should coordinate systems for clearing trades and administering "circuit-breakers" that could include price limits and trading halts. But no agency has been designated for the task.

## WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 12. (Reuters): Share prices closed firm, consolidating yesterday's 24-point gain, with demand for resource and gold issues outweighing weaker industrial prices. The All Ordinaries index was 3.8 points up at 1,199.1.

TOKYO: Shares closed higher in modest trade on speculation that US December trade data due later would show a narrower deficit than November. The Nikkei index gained 210.06 points to close at 23,981.94.

HONG KONG: Prices closed higher on bargain-hunting in thin trade as investors stayed cautious ahead of US trade figures. The Hang Seng index ended 30.75 up at 2,287.23.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed marginally higher on short-covering and bargain hunting but trading remained relatively quiet. The Straits Times industrial index rose 6.47 to 873.17.

BOMBAY: Share prices recovered selectively of institutional support but fertiliser shares fell on worries of a cut-back in government subsidies.

FRANKFURT: Prices ended an active bourse firm but off the highs of the day, supported by bullish sentiment and a higher dollar. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, rose 18.4 to 1,329.2.

ZURICH: Prices ended steady in moderate trading, with sentiment boosted by the stronger dollar. But investors were cautious before the release of US trade data later today. At the close the All-Share Swiss index was up 3.8 at 797.5.



# IN FOCUS

## The world today

**A CRASH** on the west bank of Daytona Speedway, Florida, sets car Number 70, driven by J.D. McDuffie, on fire as he is hit by car Number 0 driven by Rodney Combs. Car Number 393 with Ralph Jones at the wheel slides down the track after the encounter. Only McDuffie suffered injuries to his hands. (Reuter wirephoto)



**ITALIAN Prime Minister Giovanni Gorla**, who resigned from office on Wednesday, chats with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti (right) before the start of the European Economic Community emergency summit in Brussels on Thursday. (Reuter wirephoto)



**The body of a Palestinian** is carried moments after he was shot dead by Israeli soldiers during a demonstration following Friday prayers. (Reuter wirephoto)



**SOUTH KOREAN president-elect Roh Tae Woo** (right) receives Lee Hyun Jae at his Seoul office on Thursday after appointing the professor of economics, a former head of the state-run Seoul National University, to become prime minister when Roh takes over power on February 25. (Reuter wirephoto)



**A PHOTOGRAPH** of kidnapped American professor Alann Steen delivered to a Western news agency in West Beirut on Thursday. In a statement accompanying the picture, the kidnappers of three Americans and an Indian in Lebanon threatened to take measures against the captives and called for demonstrations against Israel's policy in the occupied territories. (Reuter wirephoto)

**US PHOTOGRAPHER Anthony Suau** won yesterday the prestigious 1987 Press Photo of the Year award for his coverage of the violent protests surrounding last year's presidential elections in South Korea. Suau's picture, 'Kiro—the final stand', shows a weeping mother clutching the shield of a riot policeman after her son had been arrested in the unrest near a Kiro polling station. Suau, of the Black Star Agency, won a \$2,630 award for his Photo of the Year in the annual competition organised by the Amsterdam-based World Press Photo Foundation. The Foundation said Suau's winning photo was selected from among 9,202 entries from 64 nations. (Reuter wirephoto)



**DELEGATES** from South Korea's rival opposition parties on Thursday shake hands before holding talks on ways to unify them at a Seoul restaurant. They agreed to try to merge before parliamentary polls due by April. (Reuter wirephoto)



**DANISH crewman Paul Egon Pedersen**, 46, lies on his hospital bed in the United Arab Emirates city of Dubai yesterday after he was badly injured in an unidentified raid against the Danish supertanker 'Kata Maersk' Thursday night. None of the shocked crew were able to say whether the overnight attack, which killed one crewman and injured three, came by sea or air. (Reuter wirephoto)



**RIDEN FOLKE**, a Swedish reporter, speaks on the telephone in his hotel room as fellow journalists look on on Thursday. Folke and another Swedish journalist Andre Lada were briefly seized on Beirut's airport highway and released when their kidnappers found out they were not West Germans. (Reuter wirephoto)



**HALF dog or half girl, Jackie Turtis**, 13, from Northampton takes time off to read Crufts catalogue while Caldocani Arno Frascati, an Italian Spinone, takes a peep over her shoulder to see who is due in the ring next at the Crufts Annual Dog Show in London. (Reuter wirephoto)



**LEAGUE of Arab States Ambassador Clovis Maksoud** speaks at a news conference on Wednesday. He said the decision to close the Palestinian Liberation Organisation's observer mission at the United Nations is an 'act of harassment'. (Reuter wirephoto)



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

# MARKET PLACE

## ACCOMMODATION

### Available

**SALMIYA**, Amman Street. One room with a sitting room for a small family or bachelors with a family. Tel. Mohammed Shaleel, 5633914, 3-6 pm.

(AT5-40955-2)

**ABBASIYA**, one room for 1 or 2 Indian or Pakistani bachelors with a family. Bus routes 21, 22, 39, 507. Tel. Mr. Sunil, 9025770, 7.30 am - 4 pm.

(AT5-40931-3)

**ABBASIYA**, two big rooms with kitchen and bathroom facilities for a small family or working girls. Rent KD60 only. Tel. Saleem, 4732149.

(AT5-40884-3)

**OMARIYA**, accommodation for 2 or 3 bachelors to share with an Indian family. Tel. 4745828, 9 am to 12 noon, 4 to 8 pm.

(AT5-40852-2)

**SALWA**, House 196, Block 7, (behind Irti shop). One big room with water, electricity and kitchen for a family/bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243.

(AT5-40934-3)

**SALMIYA**, behind Salmiya Fire Station, one independent room with separate kitchen, water and electricity, for an Indian family. Rent KD60/- per month. Tel. Vipin Oberoi 4740501, 7.30 am - 1.00 pm; 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT5-40928-3)

**FARWANIYA**, behind the Holiday Inn. A single bedroom available immediately in a 2-bedroom flat for 2 ladies, bachelors or a couple with kitchen facilities. Tel. Mrs. D'Souza, 4743155, ext. 219, 8 am - 5 pm.

(AT5-40848-3)

**DAIYA**, Block 4, Ibn Sina Street, House No. 13, 1 room available. Contact personally any time.

(AT1-40865-3)

## FOR SALE

### Furniture

**FRIDGE**, wall unit, bedroom set, sofa set, dining table, and many household items for sale. Tel. 3721410, after 9 am.

(AT5-40947-2)

**SOFA** set 2x3 seater, 4 seater. Only 3 months used. Tel. Amira, 5652943, 8 am - 12 pm.

(AT1-40964-3)

### Cars

**PUMA** convertible, 1982, 2 + 2 Porsche Styling, tested to Nov 88. Good condition. KD 900 cash. Tel. Philip Duke 2452880 (8 lines).

(AT5-40920-3)

**MAZDA** 323, 1.5 engine, AC, manual, silver, radio cassette. Good condition. KD 550. Tel. Mr. Bob, 4712044, ext. 459, 7 am - 1 pm.

(AT5-40933-3)

**PEUGEOT** 505, 84 model, registered 7/85. One owner, one driver, 48,000 km 5 gear manual, excellent A/C, condition like new. Tel. Pongracz 5381001-313 off. 4742000-200 res.

(AT1-40907-3)

**NISSAN** Stanza, 1983 model, fully automatic with sunroof, owner driven. Tel. Mr. Mustaqim, 5332222, 4-6 pm.

(AT1-40968-2)

**MERCEDES** 200, model 88, manual, black colour, right hand drive, A/C, automatic window, excellent condition. Best offer. Tel. Javadi, 2546022, 2546213, 2546413, 8 am - 2 pm.

(AT1-40936-3)

**SUZUKI** Jeep 1987, SJ413 model, 5 speed, AC, cassette in excellent condition. Monthly instalments of KD60. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tel. 3949106 3949163 ext. 32

(AT1-40962-2)

**IMPALA** 1977, white, fully automatic, insured till Nov 88. Very reliable. KD980. Tel. Mr. Ashkan, 4678197, after 1 pm.

(AT5-40967-2)

**MITSUBISHI** Colt, model 1984, white, automatic in good condition. KD 650 cash. Tel. 4575340 after 1.30 pm.

(AT5-40946-3)

**G.M.C. "Jimmy"** 1979, fully automatic, full-time 4 x 4, KD700. Tel. Mr. Rudolf Dorn, 2411499, 5752675.

(AT5-40948-6)

**TOYOTA** Cressida GLX 1985, white, AC, fully automatic/manual gear, 52,000 kms. In perfect condition. KD700 for owner and KD1180 on installment. Tel. Mansoor, 2523218, 8 am - 6 pm, 2528788 after 7 pm.

(AT5-40953-3)

## Miscellaneous

8MM movie camera, tripod, stainless steel tea trolley, grinder, toaster, rotating grill, baby dining chair, walker, playpen, swing, paintings. Tel. 3989111 ext. 6184, 7 am - 4 pm, 3910862, evenings.

(AT1-40972-2)

**CONTENTS** of a large three-bedroom flat. Good sized fitted carpets, kitchen appliances (large) lounge, dining, bedroom furniture. Tel. Jones, 5624728, after 9 am.

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**FARWANIYA**, 2 bedroom flat, fully furnished with tele., swimming pool and tennis court for sale. Available by June 1st. Rent KD 225. Tel. 4743362, 6.30 - 8.30 pm.

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## SAGAR JEWELLERS

Attractive new designs available at our new showroom at:

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NR's interested in participating in the following schemes:

1. Bandra - 3000 sq. ft flats - Rs 55 lakhs each.
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Contact: Rajan N. Reshmiwala Al Media Consultancy Co. Tel. 2424018-016/2426147

## Just arrived New Computer Books

Read Computers Rehab Complex, Howat, Tel. 2688800.

**Video Film International**  
40 films KD7  
55 films KD10  
80 films KD20  
Prices include all movies except Arabic movies.  
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Available villas, floors of villas, new and deluxe apartments. Good for embassies, managers and families.  
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## Buy land in Texas USA

\$30/Sq mtr 30% down payment, balance to be paid within 96 months.

For details: Mazen Alhadid 4700 Rockside Rd. Suite 545 Cleveland 44131 Ohio - USA Tel. (216) 6423409

**DRYER** and dishwasher for sale. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tel. 4870117.

(AT5-40924-3)

## LOST

**PASSPORT** No. B-157199, Abbas Ali Saifuddeen at International Airport (Ter. No. 1). Tel. Shoukat 4812410 7.30 am - 8 pm or Indian embassy.

(AT5-40921-3)

A **BLACK** purse containing two ID cards in the name of Sylvester Sunny Gomez. Finder please contact tele. 4843484, 4847236.

(AT1-40967-2)

## SITUATIONS

### Vacant

**MAID** required, English or Arabic language for a family near the Sabah Hospital, full-time to live-in. Must have a transferable visa. KD40 per month. Tel. 4873370, after 8 pm.

(AT1-40950-1)

## FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

**Messiah Beach Real Estate**  
Tel. 2401858  
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## FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, buildings, and flats with or without swimming pool.

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A Beauty Salon requires first class female hairdressers, full-time. Accommodation provided. Must have transferable residence. Call after 4.00 pm, tel. 4772260.

## Attn Non-Resident Indians

If you are interested in small-to-medium-scale projects in India please contact: Rajan N. Reshmiwala Al Media Consultancy Co. Tel. 2424018-016/2426147

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### Mangaf Deluxe Apartments

3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, maid room, 3-bathrooms and fully-equipped kitchen (CAC). You'll enjoy the beautiful garden, swimming pool, exercise room, basketball court, children's amusements, 24 hours maintenance and security. Rent KD260/- including water. Please call: 3721668 from 8 am to 4 pm, and 3918648 from 4 to 8 pm.

**RELIABLE** transport required from Fahaheel to Shuwaikh Tim. ing 8 am and back at 7 pm. Tel. Regina. 4831813/4.

(AT1-40966-3)

## Tuition

A **TEACHER** required to teach Indian classical music (sitar) in Kuwait city. Tel. Charlie Fernandes, 2448643, 7 am - 10 pm.

(AT5-40951-3)

**TUITION** in all subjects except Arabic. LKG to V Std, given by a well experienced Indian teacher in Farwaniya. Tel. 4749917, 2-8 pm.

(AT5-40943-3)

## WANTED

**POST** Box in Safat Post Office & IBM compatible P.C. with printer and 640K. Tel. Mohd Habib 4733108 (AnsMchm) 8 am - 8 pm.

(AT5-40923-3)

**FOR RENT**  
\* Villas  
\* Part Villas  
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Excellent condition with 2-3-4 Bedrooms with Dining room, Saloon, Telephone, Garden, Car parking space, Servant's quarters with Central Airconditioning. Contact  
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Aro man kase ng boghag a regalo ang nais ninyong ipadala sa mga mahal sa buhay ay malapag-ugnay kang sa GOLDEN EXPRESS INTL. CARGO  
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## DISKETTE

Stock received Verbatim's Datatype, bonus & coloured-disk packs-computer ribbons.

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Suits (3 pieces) ..... KD 15,000  
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Fahd Al Salem St - Al Aqaf Bldg - beside Malla Saleh Mosque.  
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Villas, Deluxe flats furnished and non-furnished, in Hadiya, Fahaheel, Fintas, and Abu Halifa.

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— Galv. pipes and fittings to I.S. (1357) class C and B.  
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— C.I. pipes and fittings I.S. (418) and (437) and and tubs.  
— Copper pipes and fittings to I.S. standard.  
— Valves (threaded and flanged).  
— Water heater copper lined.  
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— Joints floor and roof drains, cleanout etc.  
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Also all plumbing accessories.  
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## Form Arabia Furnishing Co. w.l.l.

A beautiful villa in a small complex with pool, gardens etc. 3 bedrooms, maid's room and telephone.  
For details phone 4878009/010 between 8am and 12 noon.

## REQUIRED CAC mechanics

7 years of experience in maintaining DX Units.  
**CAC assistant**  
3 years of experience.  
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Recognised name for Super-Deluxe accommodation in Latifa, Union, and Ghazwa compounds.  
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Apartments of 250 square metres each.  
— Each apartment consists of a master Brm and 3 more Brms plus maid's room, oil with fitted cupboards, 4 bathrooms plus guest toilet. Spacious living room with dining area and kitchen with fitted cabinets.

**Facilities in the complex include:**  
— Swimming pool  
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Close to the schools, supermarkets & beach. Rent for each apartment is KD550/- including water & electricity charges plus facilities.  
Plus many more flats & villas.  
For information, viewing and rentals call the owner's sole appointed agent.

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BASE SYSTEMS:-  
1. 640 KB RAM, 2 DRIVES, 84 MB HDD  
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AT VLSI BASED 5/10 Mhz TURBO SPEEDS:-  
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3. BOTH DRIVES OF ANY SIZE  
4. ONE DRIVE OR 42 MB HARD DISK  
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BEG RANGE WITH ADV. FEATURES  
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BEG SELECTION DOT MATRIX/LASER/ DASHY WHEEL/MOST POPULAR BRANDS  
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Applications are invited now from UK qualified teachers for posts in September 1988.

Sunshine School is a British curriculum private school for pupils aged between 3-11 years. Present number on roll - 600.

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مجلسه اول



## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Possible expulsion

CALGARY, Feb. 12, (Reuters). Former Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali faces possible expulsion from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) unless he returns home before the Seoul games in September, IOC sources said yesterday.

Mzali, dismissed as prime minister in 1986, has been in exile since his secret departure from Tunisia.

## Lendl to return

EDINBURGH, Feb. 12, (Reuters). World number one John Lendl is expected to return to the pre-Wimbledon grass-court championships in Edinburgh in June, despite the misfortune that dogged the event last year.

Torrential rain, which cancelled the whole tournament, drenched both the men's and women's finals to be abandoned — and that was after Lendl, the main drawcard, had pulled out of the semifinals because of flu.

## Johnson out

GENOA, Italy, Feb. 12, (Reuters). World 100 metres champion Ben Johnson has pulled out of an athletics meeting here tomorrow and will also miss a race in Belgium next Wednesday because of a nagging thigh injury, organisers said today.

The Canadian pulled a thigh muscle during a 60-metre race at Sindelfingen, West Germany, a week ago and missed a meeting in Karlsruhe last Sunday.

## Sponsorship offer

LONDON, Feb. 12, (Reuters). Two major English companies have offered to sponsor Nottingham Forest soccer club Brian Clough as full-time manager of Wales, the Welsh Football Association (WFA) said today.

Swansea chairman Doug Sharpe, head of the WFA negotiating committee seeking a new national manager, said he would be meeting representatives of the two companies, whose identity has not been revealed, to discuss their proposal in the next few days.

"I think what they will be offering will be enough to get Brian on a full-time basis, Sharpe said.

## Protest called off

ROME, Feb. 12, (Reuters). The Italian Footballers' Union has called off a threatened protest over plans to allow first division sides to sign a third foreigner and demands for a better deal for the League's lower divisions.

The union, the Italian Footballers' Association, said after talks with the Football Federation that its threatened half-hour stoppage delaying the start of text Sunday's matches would not go ahead and a strike next month could be suspended if further talks were successful.

## Supercup result

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 12, (Reuters). Cruzeiro of Brazil beat Argentina's Independiente 2-1 (half-time 0-0) on Wednesday night in the first leg of their South American Supercup soccer group three match.

Scorers: Cruzeiro — Wilmar 59th minute, Hamilton (61st), Independiente — Sergio Merlini 81st.

## West German flag

CALGARY, Feb. 12, (Reuters). The West German flag at tomorrow's opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics is to be carried by Peter Angerer, a biathlete who was once banned for almost a year for taking drugs.

The West German National Olympic Committee (NOC) said yesterday that it had awarded Olympic champion Angerer the honour because it was convinced he was innocent.

## Jamaican sled

CALGARY, Feb. 12, (Reuters). Jamaica's Olympic bobsleigh team thought they had lost their second-hand two-man sled until they found out the British had taken it by mistake.

British officials collected the sled at Calgary airport thinking it was theirs and it took nearly 24 hours to sort out the mix-up, Jamaican team manager George Rich told Reuters on Wednesday.

## Identity tags

CALGARY, Feb. 12, (Reuters). The Canadians' impressive security operation at the Calgary Winter Olympics grows ever more intensive.

Now, even the sniffer dogs used to search for explosives behind the three-metre high moat surrounding the Olympic village have to wear identity tags.

Fittingly, they have been given special rover passes.

## Australian jailed

DELAIDE, Feb. 12, (Reuters). Former Australian javelin champion Reg Spinks was sentenced to 18 months in jail on yesterday for trying to smuggle cannabis worth 1.2 million dollars (\$500,000) into the country. Spinks, 46, who fled Australia in 1981 while awaiting trial, pleaded guilty. He was involved in a scheme to smuggle the drugs across the border.

## CALGARY OLYMPICS OPEN TODAY

## Winter Games will exorcise the ghost of Montreal

CALGARY, Feb. 12, (Reuters). The ghost of Canada's Olympic past will finally be exorcised when the XVth Winter Games open tomorrow.

Twelve years after the summer Olympics saddled Montreal with debts which will run into the next century, Calgary should redress the balance and return a substantial profit from a Games billed as the best ever.

Rank Montreal's experience has served Calgary well. Under pressure to stage the 16-day \$430 million spectacle on budget with little cost of local taxpayers, organisers are looking for a profit of around \$30 million.

If Montreal was the financial nadir of the modern Olympic movement, then Calgary will rank alongside 1984 hosts Los Angeles as exponents of a commercial sponsorship revolution which promises to safeguard the Games' profitable future.

But the books could not have been balanced without the aid of ABC (American Broadcasting Company) which paid a mind-boggling \$309 million for the US broadcast rights.

Calgary, in the heart of oilman and cowboy country, appears an unlikely setting for a snow spectacular traditionally associated with picturesque Alpine resorts.

It is a sprawling city of 600,000 surrounded by Indian reservations and more famous for the July stampede, an annual 10-day Wild West celebration. But the majesty of the Rockies which thrust skywards 100 km to the West compensates for the city's lack of charm.

While most events will be staged in Calgary's superb, purpose-built facilities, the Alpine and Nordic skiing will be tucked away in the Rockies at Nakiska's Mount Allan and the town of Canmore.

Among the visitors will be Britain's princess royal, Sweden's King Carl-Gustaf and King Juan Carlos of Spain along with other European and Middle Eastern royalty.

Though close to 2,500 of winter sport's greatest names and 5,000 media representatives will attend, one man stands alone as the likeliest star of the show — Pirmin Zurbriggen.

The 24-year-old Swiss could eclipse Austrian Toni Sailer and Frenchman Jean-Claude Killy, triple Olympic champions in 1956 and 1968, by winning all five Alpine disciplines.

Sailer and Killy won the downhill, slalom and giant slaloms in Cortina and Grenoble, but Zurbriggen also goes in the Super-G and 'Grenoble, combination events in a bid to be recognised as the greatest Winter Olympian of all.

Other likely headline makers are figure skaters Brian Orser of Canada and East German Katarina Witt.

Perform World champion Orser will perform under the intense pressure of being the host nation's only genuine gold medal prospect while Witt will have to withstand the challenge of American Debi Thomas in a women's competition guaranteed to pulsate with drama and suspense.

Soviet world champion speed skater Nikolai Gulyayev will attract attention win or lose following his role in a recent steroids scandal. He is alleged to have sold the performance boosting drugs to a Norwegian skater and looks certain to compete despite calls for his sacking.

Saga The Gulyayev saga remains the only major scandal of the 1988 Winter Olympics, although the Games' former ticket manager is currently awaiting trial in Edmonton and fraud charges.

More than 350,000 tickets remain for several prime events, including almost 100,000 for the ice hockey competition — Canada's most popular sport.

The weather, another possibly contentious issue, also seems to have come right.

Calgary has abundant snow and two weeks of biting cold is forecast to end tomorrow with a warming Chinook wind taking

temperatures above freezing for the 60,000 spectators at the opening ceremonies in McMahon stadium.

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Sailer and Killy won the downhill, slalom and giant slaloms in Cortina and Grenoble, but Zurbriggen also goes in the Super-G and 'Grenoble, combination events in a bid to be recognised as the greatest Winter Olympian of all.

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Saga The Gulyayev saga remains the only major scandal of the 1988 Winter Olympics, although the Games' former ticket manager is currently awaiting trial in Edmonton and fraud charges.

More than 350,000 tickets remain for several prime events, including almost 100,000 for the ice hockey competition — Canada's most popular sport.

The weather, another possibly contentious issue, also seems to have come right.

Calgary has abundant snow and two weeks of biting cold is forecast to end tomorrow with a warming Chinook wind taking

temperatures above freezing for the 60,000 spectators at the opening ceremonies in McMahon stadium.

1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary

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1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary

commercial sponsorship revolution which promises to safeguard the Games' profitable future.

But the books could not have been balanced without the aid of ABC (American Broadcasting Company) which paid a mind-boggling \$309 million for the US broadcast rights.

Calgary, in the heart of oilman and cowboy country, appears an unlikely setting for a snow spectacular traditionally associated with picturesque Alpine resorts.

It is a sprawling city of 600,000 surrounded by Indian reservations and more famous for the July stampede, an annual 10-day Wild West celebration. But the majesty of the Rockies which thrust skywards 100 km to the West compensates for the city's lack of charm.

While most events will be staged in Calgary's superb, purpose-built facilities, the Alpine and Nordic skiing will be tucked away in the Rockies at Nakiska's Mount Allan and the town of Canmore.

Among the visitors will be Britain's princess royal, Sweden's King Carl-Gustaf and King Juan Carlos of Spain along with other European and Middle Eastern royalty.

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## SPORTS

## Benetton unveil new Formula One Grand Prix car

LONDON, Feb 12, (Reuters): The Benetton motor racing team unveiled its car for the 1988 season yesterday — the B188 powered by a Ford engine designed to meet future Formula One regulations.

The makers have switched from a turbo to a naturally aspirated engine in line with the sport's rules for next year when turbos will be banned.

Last year Benetton scored points in 10 of the 16 Grand Prix, finished third in Austria and Australia, and ended in fifth place in the constructors' championship.

"We thought we would get a headstart and be ready for 1989," Michael Krumpholtz, director of Ford's special vehicle operations, told a news conference.

"This engine is an interim thing," he added. "At the same time we are working on an all-new engine."

Other new features of the B188 include a major revision of the front suspension and a change in the position of the gearbox, said Rory Byrne, head of the design team.

The B188 will make its debut in the Brazilian Grand Prix in April with drivers Thierry Boutsen of Belgium and Italian Alessandro Nannini, formerly of Minardi.

## Mecir moves into semifinals

ROTTERDAM, Feb 12, (Reuters): Cool-tempered Miloslav Mecir overcame a second set loss of form to beat Claudio Mezzadri 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 and earn a place in the semifinals of the Rotterdam indoor tennis tournament today.

Third-seed Mecir, ranked sixth in the world, started confidently taking the first set with some ease, but a series of unforced errors led the Italian back in the match.

Mezzadri, who rose from 138th to 30th in the world during 1987, took the second set with some strong play at the net and aggressive serving.

But the Czech kept to his effective baseline game, refusing to be forced into sixth-seeded Mezzadri's serve and volley style of play. His pinpoint precision from the back of the court paid off in the third set after a vital break of serve in the ninth game.

Mecir said afterwards he made a point of never getting too emotional on court when the pressure was on. "I play better when I stay cool in those situations," he said.

The semifinals could bring another clash of styles if veteran American serve and volleyer Jimmy Connors made it through his quarter-final against Sweden's Jonas Svensson later today.

In another quarter-final top seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden was playing Czech Milan Srejber.

## Noah enters quarterfinals

LYON, France, Feb 12, (Reuters): Former French Open champion Yannick Noah, top-seeded in the Lyon Grand Prix tournament, easily disposed of his West German opponent Damir Keretic yesterday in two sets 6-3, 6-4.

Noah now meets Australian Brad Dyke in the quarterfinals today after Dyke overwhelmed Thierry Pham of France 6-1, 6-1.

In an all-French affair, Philippe Pech defeated Thierry Tulasne, seeded sixth, in three sets 6-7, 5-6, 2.

## Yugoslavs take honours in European basketball

LONDON, Feb 12, (Reuters): Drazen Petrovic scored 60 points for Cibona Zagreb as Yugoslav clubs took the honours in this week's European club basketball competitions.

Petrovic's contribution was vital in Zagreb's 103-93 away win over Hapoel Tel Aviv in their Korav Cup semifinal first leg.

Petrovic, who joins Spain's Real Madrid next season, was supported by 29 points from his international teammate Danko Cvjetkovic.

Almost to the final Petrovic will almost certainly face his future teammates following Madrid's 89-82 first-leg victory in Yugoslavia over Red Star Belgrade. The second-leg matches are next Wednesday.

Another Yugoslav club, Partizan Belgrade, held on to top place in the Champions' Cup final pool when they won 106-85

## AL HAJRI LOSES DUE TO A TYRE PUNCTURE

## Bin Sulayem snatches victory in Qatar rally

DOHA: The 1988 Qatar International Rally, possibly the most dramatic in the relatively brief history of Middle East motorsport, ended here yesterday afternoon with Dubai's Mohammed Bin Sulayem and his new co-driver Ronan Morgan snatching victory in the dying stages.

Sulayem, at the wheel of his Toyota Celica turbo, regained the lead on the 28th and penultimate stage when the Rothmans Audi Quattro of Qatar's Saeed Al Hajri lost three minutes with a puncture.

But it was a victory thoroughly deserved after all had seemed lost for the Middle East champion when he hit a rock on the first stage after Thursday's overnight rest halt.

The rock devastated the car and driver and both took time to recover from the impact. In a matter of minutes, a lead that had looked intimidating, if not

invincible, became almost too large.

After the Toyota mechanics had repaired all the bands and breaks, he attacked Al Hajri's advantage.

Nearly three minutes in arrears to the Rothmans driver, Sulayem staged a classic fight-back driving win-or-hust and eluding back first the seconds, then the minutes, as the sun turned towards the West and his chances began to fade with the daylight.

The jubilant Toyota driver said later: "I had nothing to lose. If Saeed had not had the puncture, I think we would only have been seconds apart going into the final stage."

Al Hajri, driving the Rothmans Audi Quattro for the first time and with a new co-driver in Steve Bond, shook his head philosophically. "I can't believe I have lost the rally because of a puncture. But there was nothing

I could do about it. Apart from that, we had no problems with the car from beginning to end and that makes me very confident about the rest of the series."

Qatar is the first of the six rounds of the 1988 Middle East Championship and this is the first time that he has ever been beaten on his home ground.

**Locked**

It is a sad fact that when Al Hajri and Sulayem are locked in a battle for supremacy, the other players in the dramas are relegated to making up the numbers, however, real their own endeavours may be to them, Qatar was no exception.

Michel Saleh threatened briefly at the start of the first day, then fell back with a consistently misfiring engine to his Audi Quattro, resigned to third place isolation for the rest of the way.

"We only got it sorted out on the second day," he said, "and by

that time it was far too late to think about anything more than making sure of that position."

Qatar's Ahhas Al Mosawi chased vainly in his Sunbeam Talbot Lotus, but paid for his attempt with a lost wheel four stages from home, dropping more than 24 minutes but only one place.

**Nightmare**

His loss — very near the end of the rally — was Mubarak Al Hajri's gain. The brother of the Rothmans star had driven his Opel Manta 400 meticulously through the nightmare of jagged stones that make the Qatar terrain almost unique in the six-round championship series.

Lower down the order, the remaining survivors from the original field of 19 took on the look of stunned victims. The overall gap between first and last might only have been a couple of hours, but it was a lifetime in experience. Even so, without

those dedicated and enthusiastic amateurs, there would be no rallying in the Middle East.

Doha resident Jos Van Opstal in a Nissan 240K GT took sixth place followed by Vasco Manacas in a Peugeot 250 GTI and Ziyad Mikdad in a humble Suzuki.

**Provisional results**

1. M Bin Sulayem/R Morgan (UAE/Irl) Toyota Celica turbo, 2hr:57min:32sec.

2. S Al Hajri/S Bond (Qatar/GB) Rothmans Audi Quattro 3:01:11.

3. M Saleh/T Thorp (Lebanon/GB) Audi Quattro 3:08:37.

4. M Al Hajri/A Al Haye (Qatar) Opel Manta 400 3:31:03.

5. A Al Mosawi/G Sarian (Qatar) Peugeot Sunbeam Talbot 3:45:30.

1988 Fiss Middle East Rally Championship leaders after one round: Sulayem 28 points, Al Hajri 22, Saleh 18, M Al Hajri 14.



Bin Sulayem: dramatic win

## India pulls out of Asia Cup cricket

NEW DELHI, Feb 12, (Reuters): India will miss the Asia Cup cricket tournament in Dhaka at the end of the month because the government has not cleared the team to play, the Indian Cricket Board said today.

Ranbir Singh, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), said in a statement yesterday the government had given no official reason for its decision, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said today.

He said an External Affairs Ministry spokesman, questioned about the Asia Cup earlier, had referred to the widespread violence and political unrest in Bangladesh in recent days.

Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are also due to participate in the Asia Cup limited overs cricket tournament on February 22 to 29 but in view of the unrest in Dhaka, cricket officials expect it to be postponed or cancelled.

## Jones' century puts Australia in command

PERTH, Australia, Feb 12, (Reuters): Dean Jones hit an unbeaten century, his third in Tests, as Australia took the full toll of the Sri Lankan attack and a fast Perth pitch on the first day of their cricket Test today.

Each of the top four Australian batsmen scored more than 50 as the home side took their first innings to an impressive 333 for three at the close of play.

Sri Lanka's attack, based on four medium-pace bowlers, showed its limitations and, except for a brief period after lunch, posed few problems for the Australians. Paceman Ravi Ratnayake was the most successful bowler with two for 52 off 21 overs.

Openers Geoff Marsh and David Boon started slowly in the face of a stream of wide deliveries from Ratnayake and Graeme Labrooy before going on to the attack.

They reached their fifth century opening partnership in Tests soon after lunch off 181 balls.

Boon reached his ninth Test 50 shortly before Marsh but the partnership was broken at 120 when Marsh was yorked by Labrooy for 53.

Labrooy was unlucky not to take a second wicket in the same over after Jones padded up to a ball which television replays showed would probably have taken his off stump.

Thirteen runs later Ratnayake claimed his 50th Test wicket as Boon played outside an off-cutter and was bowled for 64 after 170 minutes at the crease.

Sri Lankan elation at the breakthrough soon dissipated as Jones and his captain Allan Border started labouring the attack at the delight of a sparse crowd.

Both players were 39 out at tea, although Jones was again lucky to survive a confident caught behind appeal off spinner Saooth Kaluperma shortly before the interval.

Border appeared set for his 23rd Test century, but after hitting seven boundaries, he played

a casual drive to a good length ball from Ratnayake and was bowled for 88.

Jones, who has hit 13 boundaries, was 100 out at the close with Mike Veletta on 10.

**Scoreboard**

AUSTRALIA first innings

G Marsh b Labrooy ..... 53

D Boon b Ratnayake ..... 64

D Jones not out ..... 100

A Border b Ratnayake ..... 88

M Veletta not out ..... 10

Extras (lb-9 nb-5 w-4) ..... 18

Total (for three wickets) ..... 333

Fall of wickets: 1-120 2-133 3-289

To bat: S Wagh, G Dyer, P Taylor, A Dodemaide, C McDermott, M Hughes.

Bowling to date: Ratnayake 21-4-55-2, Labrooy 24-2-85-1 (4th tw).

Ramanayake 13-1-44-0 (2w), Amalanka 11-0-58-0 (1w), Kaluperma 13-0-62-0 (1st), Ramanayake 8-2-18-0, Aravinda de Silva 1-0-2-0.

Sri Lanka: Ranjan Madugalle (captain), Brendon Kuruppu, Roshan Mahanama, Saanth Kaluperma, Aravinda de Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga, Gey de Alwis, Ravi Ratnayake, Graeme Labrooy, Chamapaka Ramanayake, Kamal Akmal.

## McNulty fires stunning 61

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Feb 12, (Reuters): South African Mark McNulty fired a stunning 11-under-par 61 while American Jay Townsend shot a hole-in-one today in the exciting third round of a \$100,000 golf tournament here.

But it was not enough for either to catch up with South Africa's Jeff Hawkes who shot a third round 66 for a 17-under-par total 199.

Compatriots Ian Palmer and John Bland were in second and third place with 200 and 202 respectively.

McNulty's magnificent round, matching the Sunshine circuit's round record set last year, put him in joint fifth place and marked his recovery from a long illness which kept him away from last year's million-dollar challenge at Sun City.

Townsend, 25, recorded the first ace of his career with a nine-iron on the 146-metre 15th hole.



Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil, two-time Formula One champion, goes in a Chevrolet Indy in New York where he was promoting the Marlboro Grand Prix at the Meadowlands. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Navratilova wins

DALLAS, Feb 12, (AP): Top-seeded Martina Navratilova, trailing 2-4 in the first set, rallied to a 6-4, 6-2, third-round victory over Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union yesterday in the \$250,000 Virginia Slims of Dallas.

Savchenko's serve-and-volley game and unpredictable tactics confounded Navratilova early in the match.

Navratilova went ahead 5-4, then had to fight off a break point before she closed out the first set.

"She made some crazy shots, shots you wouldn't normally try in certain situations," Navratilova said. "You wonder if she's really that good, if she knows what she's doing, or what. She either hits a winner or misses."

**Preparation** Savchenko, 21, is one of the six Soviet women competing this winter on the Virginia Slims tour in preparation for Olympic competition.

Eighth-seeded Natalia Zvereva, the 16-year-old top junior in the world, is the only Soviet player left in the tournament. She faces second-seeded Pam Shriver in one of today's quarterfinals.

"It was very bad," Savchenko said through her interpreter, Soviet coach Olga Morozova. "When I was ahead, I wasn't

exactly nervous but I didn't really believe I could win. I knew what I had to do. I just didn't have enough concentration."

"You have to believe you can do it," Morozova said. "You have to be strong inside and she's not really strong yet."

The two other seeded players in action last night easily advanced.

Fourth-seeded Zina Garrison of Houston downed Maria Lindstrom of Sweden, 6-0, 6-1. Seventh-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria was a 6-0, 6-1, winner over Gigi Fernandez of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Garrison will meet Katerina Maleeva in today's quarterfinals. Maleeva's sister, Manuela, faces Mary Lou Daniels in another quarter-final match.

**Will meet** Navratilova, playing for the first time since the Australian Open, will meet sixth-seeded Barbara Potter in Friday's quarterfinals. Navratilova is seeking to regain the top world ranking she lost to West Germany's Steffi Graf.

"Potter (Potter) has a big serve and has really improved from a year ago," Navratilova said. "It's going to be a foot race to the net. It's going to be a battle of whoever makes the fewest errors."

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb 12, (Reuters): A fighting century by opener Chris Broad helped England run up a comfortable 225 for four wickets at the close of the first day of the first cricket Test against New Zealand.

The tall left-hander, who also scored a century in the biennial Test against Australia, took five hours and 40 minutes to score his 114.

**Brilliant** He was finally out to a brilliant diving catch by wicketkeeper Ian Smith off the bowling of Martin Suedden.

Bill Athey (18) and David Capel (10) were out at the close.

Broad had to contend with a lush pitch which helped the bowlers throughout the day. He was never thoroughly convincing although he timed some lovely shots.

He said later he was disappointed to be out but glad to have helped England on an "interesting" wicket.

The day should have belonged to fast bowler Richard Hadlee and thousands of his home town fans turned out in the hope he would set a Test record by taking his 37th wicket after New Zealand won the toss and put England in to bat.

But it was a miserable day for him.

"There was so much pressure on Hadlee it was bound to tell," Broad said. He added that Hadlee does not bowl as well to left-handers.

Hadlee and his fellow bowlers failed to break the top of the England batting even though they chose to field and had playing conditions ideal for the home side.

Danny Morrison, 22, playing his fourth Test, had Martyn Moxon for one when the score was seven but Broad and Tim Robinson then added 168 together.

Robinson's innings was a mixture of streaky strokes and some gloriously timed drives and glances. Although he grew in confidence his star never had the glow of permanence.

Hadlee beat the hat on numerous occasions but ended his day wicketless before tea when he went off with a strained right leg. He is expected to play tomorrow and attract an even bigger crowd.

**Picked up** Morrison's bowling was loose but he picked up the first three wickets to fall. He had Robinson taken brilliantly down the leg side by Ian Smith and then got the prized scalp of captain Mike Gatting who cracked a short ball to substitute Mark Greatbatch who accepted the sharp chance at square cover.



Tim Robinson hits a ball on the half-volley between his batting partners Chris Broad and New Zealand fast bowler Richard Hadlee. (Reuters wirephoto)

At the fall of Robinson's wicket at 86, the England innings lost momentum and both Athey and Capel were lucky to survive. England scored 54 for the loss of three wickets in the final session.

Broad said the toss appeared to be a good one for Gatting to lose and he expected the pitch to help the seam bowlers throughout the game.

**Tidy**

The New Zealand fielding was mostly tidy although John

Wright's dropped catch off Robinson when he was on 29 proved costly.

**Scoreboard** ENGLAND first innings

C Broad c Smith b Morrison ..... 114

M Moxon c Jones b Morrison ..... 1

T Robinson c Smith b Morrison ..... 70

M Gatting c sub (Greatbatch) b Morrison ..... 8

B Athey not out ..... 18

D Capel not out ..... 10

Extras (nb-7 lb-7) ..... 14

TOTAL (for four wickets) ..... 235

Fall of wickets: 1-7 2-175 3-186 4-219

To bat: P. DeFreitas, J. Embury, B. French, P. Jarvis, G. Dilley.

Bowling to date: Hadlee 18-3-50-0 (7th), Morrison 13-2-36-3, Chatfield 27-8-56-0, Suedden 26-7-70-1, Bracewell 6-1-6-0.

NEW ZEALAND: T. Franklin, J. Wright, A. Jones, M. Crowe, J. Crowe (captain), R. Hadlee, J. Bracewell, I. Smith, M. Suedden, D. Morrison, E. Chatfield.

## Philadelphia defeat Milwaukee

NEW YORK, Feb 12, (AP): Here's a roundup of National Basketball Association games last night.

**76ers 119, Bucks 113 OT** Charles Barkley scored 46 points as Philadelphia beat Milwaukee 119-113 in overtime last night, giving Jim Lynam his first victory as 76ers coach.

Barkley's basket gave Philadelphia 112-110 lead with 2:01 left to overtime, but Ricky Pierce tied it on a short jumper with 1:09 remaining in the game in Philadelphia.

**Lakers 120, Nuggets 108** Magic Johnson scored 26 points and Byron Scott added 22 as the Los Angeles Lakers halted Denver's five-game winning streak 120-108.

The Lakers raised their NBA-leading record to 16-6. It was only Denver's fourth loss in 22 games at McNichols Arena this season.

In the game in Denver, Los Angeles took control of the game

in the second quarter behind the floor play of Johnson, who finished with eight assists.

**Pacers 108, Warriors 107** Steve Stipanovich made a disputed 3-point shot at the buzzer to give Indiana a 108-107 victory over Golden State.

The winning shot from the left corner was the first 3-point shot of the season by Stipanovich, the Pacers' 7-foot (2.13 metre) centre. The Warriors protested, claiming the shot came from inside the 3-point line, but the officials disagreed.

John Long scored 22 points for Indiana, which won its third straight game. Stipanovich added 17, including 11 in the fourth quarter in the game in Oakland, California.

**Kings 123, Blazers 113** Otis Thorpe scored 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, leading the Sacramento Kings over the Portland Trail Blazers 123-113.

In the game in Sacramento, California, Joe Kleine and Mike McGee each added 20 points for Sacramento, while rookie Kenny Smith had 15 assists.

Jerome Kersey made two free throws with 1:25 left to pull Portland within 115-113. The Kings then held Portland scoreless while getting six points in the final minute.

**Supersonics 120, Rockets 115** Tom Chambers scored 36 points and Dale Ellis added 35 as Seattle broke a five-game streak with a 120-115 victory over Houston.

Rockets coach Bill Fitch was thrown out of the game in Seattle in the fourth quarter after receiving two technical fouls for protesting a call. The second technical was called after Fitch bumped referee ED F. Rush.

Akeem Olajuwon's basket with 5:15 left gave the Rockets a 107-104 lead, but Ellis then scored four straight points to give Seattle the lead.

## Rugby tournament

HONG KONG, Feb 12, (Reuters): New Zealand have been made top seeds for the Hong Kong invitation Seven-A-Side Rugby Union tournament on March 26 and 27 when they will be attempting to win the title for the third year running.

The All Blacks were drawn to play Spain and Kwang-Hua Taipei in Pool A.

British touring side Penguins, who will have the All Blacks, Scrumball and World Cup-winning captain David Kirk in their squad, were also seeded.

**Missing number**

CALGARY, Feb 12, (Reuters): Olympic games organisers will be on the lookout for a phantom racer when the Nordic skiing programme opens on Sunday.

Official Bib Number 544, due to have been assigned to one of the cross-country racers, has been stolen and competitors at the Canmore Nordic Ski Centre have been warned to be alert for an interloper on the snow.

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